# Daily Report

# Latin America

FBIS-LAT-93-086
Thursday
6 May 1993

# Daily Report
## Latin America

FBIS-LAT-93-086 6 May 1993

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.


**INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS**

Latin American Parliament Readmits Peru as Full Member *[Madrid EFE]* ..... 1

**CARIBBEAN**

**Cuba**

Government Figures Meet With Exiles for Debate on Democracy *[AFP]* ..... 2
ANPP's Alarcon Stresses Importance of District Delegate *[Havana Radio]* ..... 2
ANPP's Alarcon Defines People's Councils Role *[Havana Radio]* ..... 3
PRC Civil Affairs Ministry Workers Donate Aid Funds *[Havana Radio]* ..... 3
Official Mourning Period Declared for Sri Lankan Leader *[Havana Radio]* ..... 3

**The Bahamas**

Probe Continues Into Bahamasair Tour Operation Accounts *[CANA]* ..... 3

**Grenada**

Seaport Shut Down by Seamen's, Dockworkers' Union Work Slowdown *[Bonaire Radio]* ..... 4
Farmers Plan Demonstration Against Strike *[CANA]* ..... 4

**Haiti**

Parliamentary Alliance President on Request for Aristide Indictment *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* ..... 4
OAS/UN Mission Expresses Concern Regarding Human Rights Violations *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* ..... 5

**Jamaica**

Patterson Said To Recommit Government to 'Radical' Electoral Reform *[CANA]* ..... 5
Patterson Criticizes Independent Members of Electoral Advisory Committee *[CANA]* ..... 6

**MEXICO**

Japanese Foreign Minister Remarks on NAFTA *[Mexico City TV]* ..... 8
* Anti-CTM Role of CROC Examined *[LA JORNADA 1, 2, 3, 4 Mar]* ..... 8

**CENTRAL AMERICA**

**El Salvador**

FMLN Says Peace Process Stalemated by Lack of Will *[San Salvador Radio]* ..... 15

**Guatemala**

Bomb Explodes at Government Electricity Company Offices 4 May *[NOTIMEX]* ..... 15
URNG Members Hold Rallies, Confiscate Weapons of Local Police *[NOTIMEX]* ..... 15
Workers Confederation Warns of 'Danger of a Coup' *[NOTIMEX]* ..... 16
Mediator Issues Peace Agreement 'Timetable Commitment' *[SIGLO VEINTIUNO 1 May]* ..... 16
Mediator's Remarks Noted *[SIGLO VEINTIUNO 4 May]* ..... 17
Police Capture Cali Cartel Communications Unit *[EL GRAFICO 4 May]* ..... 17

### Honduras

Ex-Hondutel President Says Enterprise Tapping Private Telephones *[LA PRENSA 1 May]* ..... 18
Armed Forces Chief Denies Tapping Telephones *[LA PRENSA 1 May]* ..... 19
Remarks on Charges *[Tegucigalpa Radio]* ..... 20
Armed Forces Chief Gives Labor Day Message *[EL HERALDO 1 May]* ..... 21
Armed Forces Officers Named in 1986 Assassination Attempt on Journalist *[LA PRENSA 1 May]* ..... 22

### Nicaragua

UNO Deputies Present Demands at Government Dialogue Meeting *[BARRICADA 5 May]* ..... 22
Workers Organization Says Dialogue 'Another Act of Treason' *[Managua Radio]* ..... 22

### Panama

FARC Source Says Missionaries 'Alive' *[LA PRENSA 5 May]* ..... 23
Government Minister on U.S. Army Commander, Terrorism *[Panama City TV]* ..... 23
Clinton's 'Keen Political Nose,' U.S. Foreign Policy Viewed *[EL PANAMA AMERICA 5 May]* ... 24
Transportation Sector, Legislators Reach Agreement on Draft Bill *[Panama City TV]* ..... 24
PRD 'Vehemently Deplores' Violent Acts at Legislative Assembly *[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 5 May]* ..... 24

## SOUTH AMERICA

### Argentina

Air Force Commemorates 'Baptism by Fire' in Falklands *[TELAM]* ..... 26
Defense Minister Justifies Chilean Flights to Falklands *[TELAM]* ..... 26
Chilean War Planes Overfly Southern Territory *[Madrid EFE]* ..... 27
Economy Ministry Highlights 1992 Achievements *[LA PRENSA 2 May]* ..... 27
Trade Union Movement Said Against Government's Plans To Reform Legislation *[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 5 May]* ..... 28
'Great Front' Makes Progress in Consolidating Alliance With PC *[CLARIN 5 May]* ..... 29

### Brazil

Finance Minister Gives Speech on Government Program *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* ..... 30
Government Officials Meet With Supermarket Representatives *[O GLOBO 5 May]* ..... 32
Southern Separatist Movement Leaders Identified *[O GLOBO 5 May]* ..... 32

### Colombia

Senate Approves Request To Extend 'State of Internal Disturbance' *[Madrid EFE]* ..... 33
Foreign Minister Comments on European Trip *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* ..... 33
New 'Joint' ADM-19 Presidency Outlines Party Goals *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* ..... 33
Arrest Warrant Issued for Escobar for 'Terrorist' Attack *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* ..... 34

### Paraguay

Proposal Urges Executive Branch To Return Credentials of U.S. Envoy *[Lambare Radio]* ..... 34
Candidate Laino Defends U.S. Envoy *[Asunicon TV]* ..... 34
Colorado Party Ends Electoral Campaign With Mass Rally *[ABC COLOR 5 May]* ..... 35
Judge Prohibits Media From Broadcasting Election Polls, Surveys *[ULTIMA HORA 5 May]* ..... 36
European Parliament President on Importance of Having 'Fair' Elections *[ULTIMA HORA 5 May]* ..... 37
Brazil 'Willing' To Review Terms of Itaipu Treaties *[ULTIMA HORA 5 May]* ..... 37
Judge Orders Indictment of Former Military, Police Officers *[ABC COLOR 5 May]* ..... 37

**Peru**

Police Discover Plan To Free Shining Path's Guzman *[Madrid EFE]* ..... 38
Detained Plan Draftees Presented to Media *[Lima TV]* ..... 38
General Confirms Capture of Tupac Amaru 'Terrorist' Cumpa *[Lima Radio]* ..... 38
Joint Narcotics Operations With U.S. Viewed *[Lima TV]* ..... 39
Expert Warns of Extensive Amazon Region Deforestation *[EL PERUANO 23 Apr]* ..... 39
* Decreased Political Violence in Mantaro Assessed *[IDEELE Mar 93]* ..... 40

**Venezuela**

President's Letter Demands Court Impeachment Decision *[Caracas TV]* ..... 44
Council of Ministers Meeting Held on Hearing *[Caracas TV]* ..... 44
Central Information Office Director Denies Perez Planning To Resign *[Caracas TV]* ..... 45
FAC Commander Briefs President Perez *[Caracas TV]* ..... 45
Supreme Court Accepts Appeal Annulling Lara Elections *[Caracas TV]* ..... 45

## Latin American Parliament Readmits Peru as Full Member

*PY0505230993 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2012 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] Sao Paulo, Brazil 4 May (EFE)—The directorate of the Latin American Parliament (PARLATINO), on 4 May in the Brazilian city of Sao Paulo, formally and unanimously readmitted Peru as a full member of that regional organization, which comprises 22 countries.

Following protests on 3 May by Peruvian Deputies Luz Salgado Rubianes de Paredes and Xavier Barron Cebreros, the PARLATINO directorate brought forward a meeting scheduled for 6 May to readmit Peru into the organization.

Following the dissolution of the Peruvian Congress, Paredes and Barron were reduced to the category of observers at the XI European-Latin American Inter-Parliamentary Conference, which will conclude on 6 May at the permanent seat of the PARLATINO.

Constituent Deputy Paredes, of the official New Majority-Change 90 Peruvian alliance, told EFE that the PARLATINO directorate concluded that it should not wait any longer to readmit Peru.

Paredes said that there was no reason for maintaining the suspension because the Constituent Assembly, which was elected in free elections, was installed at the end of 1992 and the democratic institutions have been reinstated.

The bringing forward of the decision was overseen by PARLATINO directors including Chilean Carlos Dupre, assistant president; Humberto Pelaez, secretary general; and Ivan Madriz, the vice president for Nicaragua.

Paredes said that the Peruvian deputy must hold the presidency of one of the regional organization's committees. Before the dissolution of the Peruvian Congress, it headed the work group on the fight against drug trafficking.

The vice presidency must be activated during later meetings. This post will go to Deputy Carlos Torres y Torres Lara, a member of New Majority-Change 90.

Peruvian Ambassador to Brazil Gustavo Silva-Aranda expressed to EFE his satisfaction over the readmission and said that with today's decision his country has returned to all the international organizations from which it had been suspended.

As a consequence of Fujimori's self-coup, Peru was suspended by the Rio Group, a Latin American organization for political and economic accord; the World Inter-Parliamentary Union (UIM); and the Andean, Amazon, and Indigenous Regional Parliaments.

## Cuba

### Government Figures Meet With Exiles for Debate on Democracy

*PA0505222193 Paris AFP in Spanish 1942 GMT 3 May 93*

[Text] Havana, 3 May (AFP)—For the first time, important figures of the Fidel Castro government met on 3 May with Cuban exiles in the United States and Venezuela for a "free and open debate" on democracy.

"We are simply trying to hold a free and open debate of viewpoints which, although they might be different, are not antagonistic," Vice Foreign Minister Fernando Remirez said on opening a "Seminar on Participatory Democracy," which is sponsored by Pro-Hombre [Center for the Promotion of Mankind]. The center is headquartered in Caracas and is headed by Amalio Fiallo, a politician who left Cuba in 1960.

"The important thing is the debate itself, the fraternal dialogue, and the quality of the arguments," Remirez added. Cuban National Assembly President Ricardo Alarcon said that "a seminar such as this one is very interesting because it is directly linked to the focus of our activity at this time."

Alarcon, who was foreign minister until becoming National Assembly president in March, is a member of the Communist Party's Politburo, the country's leadership body.

Jose Ramon Balaguer, another Politburo member, also attended the opening of the seminar, which should end on 4 May and continue with a similar seminar in Miami in June or July.

Fiallo said the seminar is "a great opportunity to consider ideas and beliefs about what we understand as participatory democracy in all areas." Nevertheless, he admitted that the meeting in Havana has elicited criticism from other exiles.

"There is a sector (in Miami) that has violently attacked this" but "there is a process under way among Cubans who live abroad and we should not treat all exiles as if they were a single unit, as if everyone thinks the same way," he added.

Fiallo founded the "Radical Liberation Movement," which has Christian Democratic leanings, in 1957. He left Cuba one year after the triumph of Castro's revolution.

The institution he directs in Venezuela is sponsored by the Hanns Seidel Foundation of Bavaria, Germany. The seminar is also sponsored by two semiofficial Cuban institutions, the Center for the Study of Political Alternatives of the University of Havana and the Center for European Studies.

The seminar proves, Vice Foreign Minister Remirez said, that "when ideas (...) which stem from other experiences and are based on different philosophical viewpoints but which are expounded with dignity and respect arrive to encounter our reality, we have no objection to analyzing them with an open mind and constructive will, and to the extent that they are useful, to incorporating them to our cultural wealth."

At this time in Cuba, the "best aspirations to perfect institutions coincide with the most difficult economic situation we have ever faced" and today "we are confronting even greater dangers," he added.

He criticized the "fierce" commercial, economic, and financial embargo that Washington has maintained against Cuba since 1962 "despite the unanimous rejection of the international community, which views it as an enormous demonstration of imperialistic arrogance and intransigence."

The western system of political parties is experiencing a "deep organizational and ideological crisis" which "is particularly evident in Latin America," Ramirez said.

According to the vice foreign minister, "the preservation of our independence and sovereignty can only be achieved with the preservation of the revolution and socialism."

National Assembly President Alarcon said that "the essence of democracy from its beginning has been participation," although "the key is found (...) in achieving the maximum possible direct participation of the people, and not only through their representatives."

"I think democracy is equal to socialism, and socialism is equal to democracy," Alarcon stated.

The organizers of the seminar permitted the presence of journalists at its inauguration but not in the closed debates, which should conclude on 4 May.

Academic seminars with the participation of Cuban exiles have been held in Havana in the past, but this is the first time that important government figures have attended such a seminar.

### ANPP's Alarcon Stresses Importance of District Delegate

*FL0505135193 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0900 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Last night, Ricardo Alarcon, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP], stated that the district delegate should become the most important political worker in his community and that he should be capable of mobilizing and educating the masses. Alarcon, who is also a member of the Politburo, made these comments at the closing of the second meeting of the presidents of the people's councils in

Havana City Province. Alarcon added that the majority of the electors' co..cerns should be solved at the district level.

On the other hand, Jaime Crombet, vice president of the ANPP, said that the assessment meetings of the delegates should also become the most important meetings of the community. He said that to ensure better preparation, they agreed to postpone the district assessment meetings for the months of September and October. Crombet appeared on the televised Open Agenda program where he said that the ANPP's goal was to achieve a new national consciousness of the economic, social, and political importance of the energy problem.

### ANPP's Alarcon Defines People's Councils Role

*FL0605020593 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] A temporary commission for the analysis of the People's Councils was created today at the old Union of Young Communists cadres school, and presided over by deputy Ernesto Suarez.

[Begin Suarez recording] The objectives which this temporary work commission will pursue, precisely so we can take [this information] to the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] to be debated there in the bosom of the ANPP, are what experiences and initiatives have been achieved. What have the councils done, during their existence, to resolve these limitation and problems? How have the People's Councils been able to join all the economic entities that exist and above all, how have they achieved mass participation in the solution and confrontation of difficulties, that each council faces?

Besides this, we also have the goal to learn how the People's Councils carry out the important role of control and mass supervision of the involved entities. How do they search for methods and find solutions to confront the limitations, which logically are caused by the special period? [end recording]

Besides the speech by ANPP Secretary Ernesto Suarez, the ministers and representatives of Cuban mass organizations reported the role which their institutions should carry out in support of the People's Councils in the meeting. For his part, ANPP President Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada defined the People's Councils as the root of the Cuban democratic system.

[Begin Alarcon recording] I think that the essence of the context of the work of these councils is on one hand, to exercise mass control, control of the people—by way of the workers and neighbors themselves—of all administrative tasks; that is, help to supervise and control the fulfillment of all the plans of the administration, to make sure that resources are used appropriately, to fight waste, social undiscipline, and attitudes and activities that violate the laws of our society, and also to help to unleash the creative initiative of the people, the ability of the people themselves to confront the problems that we are facing right now. Each council sees evidence of this. They see examples of how to do things, once this initiative of the people is unleashed. They need to organize the masses to jointly resolve, with everyone's cooperation, the problems, which are everyone's problems.

I am sure they are the key of what is an authentically democratic regime. The people are not an inanimate object of society. They are the author, the principle actor. They are the subject of all the government's activity and this is the essence of the democratic [word indistinct] which is occurring right now. [end recording]

### PRC Civil Affairs Ministry Workers Donate Aid Funds

*FL0605021393 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] In Beijing, Cuban Ambassador to China Jose Armando Guerra Menchero received 200,000 yuans [approximately $35,000] as a donation from the Ministry of Civil Affairs, its subordinate organizations, and the workers of these institutions in order to mitigate the losses of the storm of the century.

### Official Mourning Period Declared for Sri Lankan Leader

*FL0505194393 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] The Council of State of the Republic of Cuba has declared a period of official mourning beginning today through 7 May as a result of the death of His Excellency Ranasinghe Premadasa, president of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

During the mentioned days, the national flag will remain at half-mast at public buildings and military installations. A condolence book was opened today, beginning at 0700 and will remain open through 6 May until 1400, at the residence of the ambassador located on 32d Street, number 407, between third and fifth Miramar.

## The Bahamas

### Probe Continues Into Bahamasair Tour Operation Accounts

*FL0505175693 Bridgetown CANA in English 1715 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, May 5, CANA—The state-owned airline's, Bahamasair, inability to get proper information on its Bahamas Express Tour operation's accounts was highlighted this week while a probe of the airline continued here. The commission of enquiry into the airline heard that the problem sharpened after

former airline chairman Philip Bethel met with the operator of the tour programme, Bill Prokicimer, in New York.

The complaint came when former airline general manager Aubrey Curling was cross-examined by Bethel's lawyer, Paul Adderley. Both Bethel and Adderley were senior ministers in the former Pindling government. Curling told how he was excluded from the New York meeting, and was not briefed on what transpired after Bethel's return. It became more difficult to maintain Bahamasair's control over the things Prokicimer was to do on the airline's direction after the meeting, he said. Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham ordered the probe of corruption allegations at Bahamasair soon after his party won last year's election.

Curling said Bahamasair had been making "substantial progress" towards allowing airline auditors to have access to the Bahamas Express accounts before the meeting. After the New York visit, he said, he "felt the whole thing fell apart again." Curling later withdrew the remark, saying it was perhaps too strong.

Bahamasair managers were concerned that the airline was not receiving all the money due to it under the Bahamas Express programme, and had tried unsuccessfully to get a proper accounting on the revenue, according to earlier evidence. Bahamasair owned the tour programme, and Prokicimer's B.P. International, Inc., New York, managed it. Curling said that Bethel attended a meeting in Nassau at which he and Prokicimer were also present. After that meeting, Bethel met with Prokicimer in New York in January, 1985. Curling said that he was not invited to attend the New York meeting.

"I didn't think it was the way it ought to have been done, but I could not dictate to the chairman who he can meet and under what circumstances," he said. But Edwin Minnis, one of three commissioners, disagreed.

"This is a managerial responsibility. This is why you are sitting here being grilled about it. Surely you didn't just sit back when the chairman said he was going to New York or whatever. What did you do? Did you object?" Curling said he did not object. It was his view "at the time" that the chairman wanted to become familiar with the nature of the Bahamas Express programme, and he thought he should do so by visiting New York.

"You are the general manager. This is a vitally important responsibility and suddenly someone comes in—you know, I don't care whether it's the chairman or prime minister, or who—and just takes away something from you. Surely you would say something about that and, if not, why?" Minnis pressed.

Curling said he did not feel there was any reason to object to Bethel going to New York. But, Minnis reiterated that the point was not that Bethel went to New York: "It's a question of the chairman taking it over and virtually, well...."

## Grenada

### Seaport Shut Down by Seamen's, Dockworkers' Union Work Slowdown

*FL0505120093 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1100 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Grenada's seaport has been shut down by the Seamen's and Dockworkers' Union, which is staging a work slowdown. Banana farmers on the island are protesting the slowdown, which they say has resulted in at least one large shipment of some 200,000 bananas being lost. The labor dispute between the dockworkers' union and the industry has been going on for two years.

### Farmers Plan Demonstration Against Strike

*FL0505172893 Bridgetown CANA in English 1641 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] St. George's, Grenada, May 5, CANA—Grenadian farmers are planning a street demonstration this week to register concern about industrial action by stevedores at the main St. George's Port that resulted in 200 tons of bananas—an entire shipment—being left behind.

"The union (representing port workers) has shown gross irresponsibility to the people of the country and they must be disciplined," Grenada Banana Co-operative Society Chairman Ralph Bhola told the Caribbean News Agency. The Seamen and Waterfront Workers Union (SWWU), which supplies labour on the docks, called a work stoppage this week to press demands for a new wage contract with some Grenadian shippers. The bananas, earmarked for export, were among the casualties of the strike.

Bhola said the Grenada Government must take measures to ensure the safe passage of the island's agricultural exports through the port. He said there had been no quarrel between the banana officials and the union.

"We are very annoyed and we are going to be on the streets sometime this week to let the world know that we cannot tolerate (strikes at the port) any longer," the former Winban chairman told CANA.

Some of the 200 tons of bananas are being sold cheaply. Some are being sent to foster and convalescent homes. The rest will be dumped, industry officials said.

## Haiti

### Parliamentary Alliance President on Request for Aristide Indictment

*FL0505160493 Port-au-Prince [illegible] in French 1030 GMT 5 M[illegible]*

[Excerpt] Let us [illegible] to Haiti where we find Deputy Antoine Joseph at the microphone of Daly Valet. The president of the office of the Alliance for Parliamentary

Cohesion, Antoine Joseph, to whom Attorney Bertin's request for Aristide's indictment has been referred, says that he is tackling this burning issue cool-headedly. He adds that Bertin's letter will follow the usual procedure, including being handed over to the justice commission for a preliminary examination. He answers Daly Valet's questions.

[Begin recording, in Creole] [Joseph] It is a file that has special importance on the political and legal planes. The political parties represented in the Chamber of Deputies are most likely working on it. The political groups are considering the question. They certainly have their own opinions on the matter. I believe there is a strong chance that the Chamber of Deputies will tackle Mrs. Bertin's request this weekend.

[Valet] Deputy Antoine Joseph, there are many rumors that there is a flaw in the initiative, in the procedure, based on the fact that on the one hand, the president was overthrown, dismissed, and that the parliament consequently applied Article 149 in appointing a provisional president; there are those, on the other hand, who say that for Attorney Bertin's procedure to have a legal basis, you parliamentarians must reinstate the president to his post to initiate such a procedure.

[Joseph] Well, this matter can form the basis of a real debate. This is the reason I would not like to give my personal opinions. For example, I met people to whom I presented this argument. They told me that it is not inevitably true because they cited other examples, such as the current situation in France. It is the case of former French Prime Minister Rocard who is not prime minister at this time but who was going to be tried on the blood contamination question, the fact that blood contaminated by the AIDS virus was administered to French patients while he was prime minister. He is not prime minister any longer, however, at the time of this trial. This is an example.

There are those who say he should be reinstated in his post first. I cannot give my personal opinion on that. The issue is now being prepared for debate. I am certain that such an issue will be discussed in the debates. I am also certain that before it is debated, the issue will also be discussed by the justice commission that will have to analyze the files. We will then know what the true procedure is.

[Valet] Is Bertin's letter not one of the reasons so many parliamentarians have fled parliament, so this letter is not examined?

[Joseph] No, we do not think so. I believe the first to flee this case would be the office because you must admit that the office has the greatest responsibility in this matter. Yet, we have tackled the issue coolheadedly. [passage omitted] [end recording]

### OAS/UN Mission Expresses Concern Regarding Human Rights Violations

*FL0505203093 Port-au-Prince Radio Tropic FM in French 1830 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] The OAS/UN civilian mission, which has a mandate to monitor human rights compliance, expressed to the Haitian Armed Forces commander in chief its deep concern regarding the serious and numerous violations that have been committed and that required the mission's intervention in different places throughout the country. According to the civilian mission press release, the most serious violations of human rights that were observed included arbitrary detention, systematic beating, and tortures perpetrated and inflicted by numerous members of the Armed Forces and people associated with them. The mission states that it has received information regarding deaths and tortures during detention. The note adds that those attacks on the people's integrity and security are aimed at hindering or prohibiting freedom of opinion and expression.

## Jamaica

### Patterson Said To Recommit Government to 'Radical' Electoral Reform

*FL0505165593 Bridgetown CANA in English 1603 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 5, CANA—Jamaica's prime minister, Percival Patterson, has recommitted his government to radical electoral reform and to discussing with opposition leader Edward Seaga any issue "to achieve peace, unity, and the progress of the nation." But in a direct response to the opposition Jamaica Labour Party's decision to partially boycott Parliament in protest against the controversial March 30 general elections, Patterson has insisted he will not be influenced by the "threat of confrontation."

Speaking in Parliament late Tuesday [4 May], Patterson outlined plans for an updated electoral system, the centrepiece of which will be national registration to "establish positive identification for all persons in Jamaica...." The government also gave notice of a bill to postpone for at least a year, local government elections, legally due next month. This is in order to allow time for electoral reform and an avoidance of the thuggery, fraud, and administrative mix-ups which marred the recent polls. The House of Representatives, meeting for the second time since the election, which ended in a 52-8 victory for the ruling People's National Party (PNP), was again without opposition members.

Opposition leader Edward Seaga has said that his party will be attending only a minimum number of sittings to ensure that MP's [Members of Parliament] retain their seats. Seaga has also refused to nominate senators to the Upper House.

The opposition leader has listed a number of demands as being conditional for the JLP's abandonment of its partial boycott. Chief among them is the setting up of a commission of enquiry into the election, and the scrapping of the Police Service Commission (which oversees police force appointments) and its replacement by a body entirely independent of the political directorate.

But Patterson reiterated late Tuesday that a commission of enquiry would be a waste of time and inappropriate. He said the Police Service Commission, as currently structured, was entrenched in the Jamaican Constitution and could not be altered without the presence of opposition senators in Parliament. Seaga's call for the scrapping of the commission was therefore pointless, unless he changed his stance and appointed senators, he said.

The prime minister, while noting that "the door remains open" to the opposition for discussion and conciliation, insisted that Seaga "must perform his constitutional duties as I equally must perform mine." Patterson added: "He must not expect to be rewarded for a failure to do what the Constitution obliges him to do by the acceptance of every proposal he chooses to make in advance of reasoned and meaningful discussions. No threat or confrontation or duress will deter me from acting in accordance with the Constitution and the true interest of the nation." He criticised Seaga for failing to acknowledge an invitation to "arrange a mutually convenient date to discuss how we can further the process of establishing an electoral system immune from malpractices and distortions of any kind."

"....One must ask how sincere the opposition really is," Patterson remarked. He said the national registration system, for which legislation will be enacted, would allow positive identification for Jamaican citizens and foreign nationals. There would be a standard identification card bearing a photograph, registration number, and other relevant information. He said the electroral office was investigating reports from polling stations in Jamaica's sixty constituencies to determine what went wrong on election day.

The electoral office was also undergoing "in-house" investigations to determine reasons for administrative bungling, such as "the late readiness of the list for the Armed Forces, which resulted in them having to vote a day late," Patterson reported. Patterson said overtures would be made to people of "unquestionable integrity" from organisations such as the service clubs and the churches, to fill electoral posts on a "permanent basis." This was a golden opportunty for people to put their deeds "where their mouth is," the prime minister told Parliament.

Patterson also defended the "integrity" of the five members of the Police Service Commission, all of whom he said were "outstanding Jamaicans" and two of whom had been appointed under a Seaga-led government in 1987.

The members are: Noel Hylton, a former chairman of the island's national carrier, Air jamaica; Canon Herman Spence, Anglican Suffragan bishop of Kingston and St. Andrew; a former judge, Avril McKain, a former chief of staff of the Jamaican Army, Brigadier Dunstan Robinson; and Dr. Simon Clarke, a United Nations representative in Jamaica.

"Who dares stand up and suggest partisan motive in the exercise of the duties of these commissioners?" asked Patterson. "Personally, I want to distance myself and my administration from any suggestion of impropriety that others may seek to attach to these Jamaicans whose record of service to their country speaks eloquently," declared the prime minister.

Seaga, a national task force on crime whose recommendations were made public last week, and political ombudsman James Kerr, have called for the Police Service Commission to be made completely "independent" of the political directorate.

The task force led by high court judge, Lensley Wolfe, wants the governor general to be made solely responsible for the appointment of the commissioners. Kerr claims that the commission "has not been credited by the public with the presumption of independence" because it is currently appointed by politicians.

## Patterson Criticizes Independent Members of Electoral Advisory Committee

*FL0505194293 Bridgetown CANA in English 1914 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, May 5, CANA—Prime Minister P.J. Patterson has criticised independent members of Jamaica's bi-partisan Electoral Advisory Committee (EAC) for not giving "full time attention" to the electoral system and a planned national registration system. The EAC oversees national elections, which were last held on March 30 and have produced much controversy.

Speaking in Parliament late Tuesday [4 May], Patterson, in recommitting his government to electoral reform, said independent EAC members were being paid at "the same level as puisne judges" in order for them to give full attention to electoral and national registration systems.

But University of the West Indies [UWI] Professor Gladstone Mills, the chairman of the EAC and one of three independent members of the committee, told CANA Wednesday Patterson had his facts wrong. Mills said independent EAC members had told then Governor General, Sir Florizel Glasspole, in 1979 when the EAC was first established, that members already had full time positions and could "not accept another full time post." In addition, Mills said, EAC members were only receiving two-thirds of the salary paid to puisne judges, following a decision by the EAC members in 1979 "to take less than the law provided."

Mills also pointed out that "when we took this job, there was no question of national registration...."

"When we were invited by the then governor general to sit as independent members of the EAC, we made it clear we all had full time positions and therefore could not accept another full time position—we could only function on a part time basis," said Mills.

"He (Sir Florizel) responded that he did not see why we could not do so. Then we (the independent members) got together in early October 1979 and agreed that we ought to volunteer and take less than the law provided. We decided we would accept two-thirds."

Mills emphasised that members of the committee under his chairmanship were only involved in making recommendations for a national registration system by the then Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) government in 1982.

Mills apart, the other independent members of the EAC are Dr. Laurie Reid, a retired UWI lecturer, and Shirley Miller, director of legal affairs in Jamaica's Ministry of Justice. They are joined on the seven member committee by two members each from the two political parties, the ruling People's National Party and the opposition Jamaica Labour Party.

Patterson was giving an overview of plans for electoral reform following the controversial March 30 elections and of plans for national registration as part of those reforms, when he voiced his criticism of the independent EAC members.

"When we first constituted the electoral advisory committee, it was intended that the independent members should be full time officers and for that reason their remuneration was set at the same level as puisne judges," said Patterson.

"In fact, they are being so paid, (but) we are not getting the benefit of the full time attention which is required not only for the electoral system but for the national registration system where they were intended to be the commissioners in the first instance," he added.

## Japanese Foreign Minister Remarks on NAFTA

*PA0505155493 Mexico City XHTV Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 5 May 93*

[Report by Francisco Fortuno on "exclusive" interview with Japanese Foreign Minister Kabun Muto in Mexico City on 4 May—recorded]

[Text] Japan proposed to Mexico the organization of a North Pacific economic forum with the participation of public, private, and academic sectors from Japan and the three signatory countries of the North American Free Trade Agreement, NAFTA: the United States, Mexico, and Canada.

In an exclusive interview for Televisa, Muto said the meeting would take place in Tokyo this year with the objective of strengthening free trade in the Pacific Basin.

[Begin Muto recording in Japanese with simultaneous translation into Spanish] I hope NAFTA will be open to third countries and that it will be in line with GATT. Developing harmonious economic relations not only between Japan and Mexico but also with the United States and Canada with the implementation of NAFTA in January 1994 will be useful to strengthening multilateral free trade in the Pacific Basin. [end recording]

Muto said even though the cold war is over the world is in a dangerous phase and peace is still a long way off. He said that Japan is willing to assume a leading role in finding solutions for problems ranging from the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, such as nuclear weapons, to ecological damage and maintaining peace.

## * Anti-CTM Role of CROC Examined

*93CA0105A Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4 Mar 93*

[Four-part series by Sara Lovera and special correspondents whose names are cited in concluding paragraphs of Part 1]

**[1 Mar pp 1, 10]**

[Text] In April 1983, Arsenio Farell Cubillas, secretary of labor and social security, predicted that the CROC [Revolutionary Confederation of Workers and Peasants] was "destined to be...the Mexican workers' major trade union." Ten years later, officially, this union has quadrupled its membership, doubled its state presence, and is filling the voids left by the extinct CNOP [National Confederation of Popular Organizations] in the regional political organization.

Called upon, at the time of its creation in 1952, to be the counterweight to the CTM [Confederation of Mexican Workers] the CROC has built a new structure based on "a silent growth" and on its "unconditional support of the new neoliberal economic model." Today, according to COPARMEX [Employers Confederation of the Mexican Republic], the CROC has more federal unions than CTM, is less conflictive, and has passed from combative words against the CTM to actions.

It functions in three modes simultaneously: As an instrument of political pressure in the manner of "traditional" unionism; as a model of productive action, wherein the union's function is to act as if it did not exist; and as a backer of democratic movements. Its style is to "not centralize" totally and to act according to circumstances.

In some states, as in Nuevo Leon, it carries the same weight and has the same political clout as Fidel Velazquez's CTM. And in Nayarit, last year alone, it staged more than 10 violent confrontations. In Guanajuato, in 1990, it snatched transportation cooperatives away from the CTM; and in Queretaro, it is the businessmen's trade union of choice because in 16 years it has not promoted a single strike.

With Farell Cubillas's administrative and judicial backing, and as a result of the clear position it has taken in support of the new economic model, the number of its member state federations has grown from 17 to 32; it has absorbed 12 labor organizations with head offices in the Federal District; it has unionized street vendors, public-market vendors, and "colonia" [urban community] residents in 12 states; and by adding the faction known as the Democratic CROM [Regional Confederation of Mexican Workers], it has become hegemonic in Baja California's border zone—Tijuana and Mexicali—where the new model of labor relations, which researcher Jorge Carillo, of Colegio de la Frontera, has termed "subordinated," is being dramatically tested.

Members of the bar associations, managers of local enterprises, workers in conflict with the CTM, as well as the CROM and COR [Revolutionary Labor Confederation], all agree on the CROC's operative advantages: They do not go on strike, "they have a talent for dialogue and consensus-building," and they do not use "blackmail." Discontented members of those trade unions in six states have joined the CROC by the thousands over the past seven years. According to various labor leaders and lawyers, the CROC's strategy has been: "Accept new members without conditions." It offers assistance to leaders "to solve problems," as it did in 1984 to those of the MNP [National Petroleum Movement], in 1983 to the workers of Pascual, and in November 1992 to the COR dissidents.

Fidel Velazquez, who has headed the CTM for the past 55 years, has repeatedly termed this line of action "treason" and has sought to minimize its real influence.

Nevertheless, Ilan Bizberg, of El Colegio de Mexico; Alfonso Garcia Alanis, legal director of COPARMEX in Nuevo Leon; Nestor de Buen, labor specialist; Max Ortega, researcher, of UAM [Metropolitan Autonomous University] at Iztapalapa; and national leaders of the CROC itself who asked not to be identified, are all of the opinion that the CROC's exponential growth is based on the support it receives from the Labor Secretariat,

"which promotes it," and on so-called protective bargaining practices—advance sale of contracts to enterprises, imposition of a contract, revisions without consulting the rank and file, banning of assemblies, and acceptance of conditions below those established by the LFT [Federal Labor Law]. In the CROC, these practices occur in up to 50 percent of its affiliates.

Official CROC figures, according to its 10-year report, published in 1992, indicate that at present the CROC has 32 state federations, two local federations, 14 national confederations and federations, 86 industrial unions, 16 civic groups, 154 regional and local federations, and 16,304 company unions and trade union groups.

According to De Buen, between 1987 and 1992 alone, 12 organizations, operating as small and medium-sized trade unions, joined the CROC. The Association of Democratic Lawyers characterized these organizations as mere "letterheads" that had "received the order of labor officials to transfer to the CROC" in order to survive.

With regard to his regional and operational policy role—as mandated by the 14th Assembly of the PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party]—the party's local leader in Nuevo Leon and labor disputes secretary of the CROC's CEN [National Executive Committee], Eleazar Ruiz Cerna, explains the following in a wide-ranging interview with Oscar Alzaga, appearing in edition number 8 of the magazine TRABAJO Y DEMOCRACIA HOY:

"The government obtains an intermediary for dealing with problems of water, sewer, electricity, markets, property regulations, and health and education services—community problems."

The CROC asserts that over the past four years, in Jalisco and Nueva Leon alone, it has founded 600 unions of colonia residents. In the area south of Veracruz it is struggling for control of the street vendors, and in Puebla it has the most powerful organization of vendors in this category, who, without losing their PRI membership, decided to invoke their status as nonsalaried workers.

This, the CROC's 10-year report indicates, is the meaning of the confederation's "open door" policy. The report adds that between 1985 and 1991, the CROC also founded the National Federation of Youth, for children of the CROC's members and the training of cadres; the National Federation of Women, whose basic purpose is to "educate women on sexual matters so as to check the demographic explosion and promote birth control"; and the Federation of Professionals and Technicians, whose members are carrying out intensive activity abroad. Each of these federations has representation in 12 states of the country.

But the biggest is the National Federation of Nonsalaried Workers, founded in Guadalajara in 1983, with 14 state federations and a membership of around 750,000 that includes open-air market workers, vendors, bootblacks, sidewalk photographers, car washers, housewives, and entertainment ticket hawkers.

According to Professor Max Ortega, of UAM-Itzapalapa, the confederation, which, in 1983, Labor and Social Security Secretary Farell had predicted would be "the proletariat's avant-garde," has the disadvantage of not "controlling" any strategic sector of the economy, and it is being used to fight and dismantle the CT [Labor Congress].

This article could not have been written without the field research contributed by the following LA JORNADA special correspondents: Carlos Gutierrez Aguascalientes; Aurelio Garibay, Baja California; Francisco Orduna, Coahuila; Eduardo Mar de la Paz, Jalisco; Gloria Perez Mendoza, state of Mexico; Teresa Gurza, Michoacan; Jesus Narvaez, Nayarit; David Carrizales, Nuevo Leon; Susana Rappo, Puebla; Alberto Espinoza, Queretaro; Rene A. Lopez, Tabasco; Martha Patricia Castro, Tamaulipas; Victor Hernadez Tamayo, Tlaxcala; and Arturo Hernandez, Veracruz.

Documented information on this confederation is scarce. Analysts speak of the CROC only in relation to the CTM, in books, essays, and research reports.

**[2 Mar pp 1, 10]**

[Text] The CROC [Revolutionary Confederation of Workers and Peasants] has been set up to replace the CTM [Confederation of Mexican Workers], it is being trained on the new labor model, and it is gaining political ascendancy. And "the process of CTM extinction" has started, in researcher Max Ortega's opinion.

According to a LA JORNADA survey, the CROC has local representation through town councilors, mayoralty officials, and aldermen, in more than 25 percent of the country's municipalities, totaling some 450 positions, and as many as 1 million civic-minded citizens with regional affiliations in 24 states of the republic. And for the past 10 years, little by little, it has been growing in villages and communities. Over the past three years, that growth has accelerated, with the "signing up" of 567 organizations, federations, confederations, unions, and workers' groups, adding approximately 400,000 workers to its membership, according to calculations based on press reports, on official data furnished by the Secretariat of Labor and Social Security's Registry of Associations, and on field work by 14 LA JORNADA correspondents.

In 1961, the CROC's presence in the Congress of Union equaled 20 percent of the workers' representation. In 1964 it dropped to 0.5 percent. From 1979 to 1988 its share of representation remained relatively stable at between 14 and 16 percent. In 1991, however—according to studies by Octavio Rodriguez Araujo of the UNAM [National Autonomous University of Mexico], and by researcher Guadalupe Pacheco, and according to Max Ortega's conclusions—it fell to 11 percent. Max

Ortega thinks that since it does not represent strategic aspects of the economy, the confederation has no political clout.

It all started with the 1980 change in its bylaws, that not only established the basis for Alberto Juarez Blancas to remain indefinitely at the head of the CROC—he has been reelected three times—but that also stipulated, in Article 14, Chapter III, Section B of those by-laws, a furthering of "direct participation in the political party that represents the interests of the proletarian classes"—the reference is to the PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party]—"and that fosters participation in government agencies, such as municipalities, state and federal labor congresses, tripartite institutions, and committees or commissions for studies or for resolving matters concerning the national proletariat." This modified the confederation's combative strategy.

In the last three years, according to "El Perfil de la CROC" ["The CROC's Profile"], a paper prepared by the STPS [Secretariat of Labor and Social Security] and the basis of the book "Conoce a la CROC" ["Know the CROC"], the confederation has increased its share of state congressional seats by 20 percent—it now has 26 seats, versus 21 seats three years ago—its participation in county executive offices by 15 percent, and between 1983 and 1992, its participation in town councils by 95 percent, its town council seats having increased from 200 to 396 during that period.

Researcher Max Ortega affirms, however, that the CROC, despite "its government protection," has real difficulties with the CTM, because as a labor confederation it has been unable to penetrate strategic industry sectors, as in reality none of the existing organizations have done. In Max Ortega's view, however, the CTM continues to wield much more real weight as a union. In their book "La Estructura del Congreso del Trabajo" ["Structure of the Labor Congress"], Carlos Zazueta and Ricardo de la Pena state that, in the strategic sector, the specific weight of the confederations, the CTM included, has decreased since the 1950's, when the large autonomous industrial unions became totally independent.

In comparing the confederations—CTM, CROC, CROM [Regional Confederation of Mexican Workers], COR [Revolutionary Labor Confederation], CRT [Revolutionary Confederation of Workers]—with one another, the authors describe them as unions of small unions, very "fragmented" in nonstrategic sectors. At the present time, according to the reports of our special correspondents, the CROC's biggest unions are those of local transportation workers or of workers in small and medium-sized enterprises. The CROC operates through a unionism based on protection of medium-sized employers, and it occasionally increases its membership by lending its support to unions in conflict. The large unions—miners, railway workers, automotive workers, iron and steel workers, telephone operators—are outside its sphere of control. Hence the idea that, in order to strengthen the labor movement, it became necessary in 1966 to create the CT [Labor Congress], which is now in crisis.

For this reason, the creation of the CROC in 1952, as the result of a proletarian assembly that brought together four large groups—Workers and Peasants Confederation of Mexico, United Confederation of Workers, National Proletarian Confederation, and National Confederation of Workers—marked the start of a competitive race between the CTM and the CROC, for niches of control and political power, in which the CTM always won.

According to Ortega, things have changed. During an interview, he asserted that the CTM has embarked on its process of extinction, because the CROC has been set up to take its place in what will be the new stage of industrialization and world trade: assembly line operations.

The records of the Secretariat of Labor show that organizations such as the Labor Federation of Employees and Peasants of the Mexican Republic, with 11 groups in the Federal District, the Vicente Lombardo Toledano Trade Union Action group, with nine unions, the Revolutionary Workers Confederation of Trade Union Groups, with 19 organizations and Registry 5041, and nine other confederations of this type, all joined the CROC in 1990. It follows that this confederation is geared to bringing together independent organizations that attained their union status toward the end of the 1960's and, in particular, dissident groups within the CTM and CROM. The largest group—in terms of number of unions—was the so-called Democratic CROM, which, according to reports from Tijuana, has, in that city alone, a membership of 12,500 workers, and at the national level, 138 organizations in 24 entities throughout the country.

This is how the CROC became hegemonic in that border strip, where the CROM had 30 percent of the contracts with assembly operation companies, without interference from the CTM. The CROC operated according to a union model that researcher Jorge Carrillo, of the Colegio de la Frontera, terms regressive and subordinated.

This model, which the CROC has uncritically made its own, had its origins in the mid-1970's, with the support of state and local governments, according to the researcher. The principal characteristic of this model lies in maintaining a flexibility of structure in contracts, that are signed before the setting up of the enterprise involved, with clauses that subvert those stipulated by the LFT [Federal Labor Law] and preclude any union activity whatever, their primary function being, according to Carrillo, to ensure "votes and labor peace."

In that zone, the CROC already had as members workers in transportation and at the Agua Caliente racetrack, and 5,000 workers from 12 fish-packaging factories in Ensenada, in addition to 400 workers in the assembly

plant in Tecate, and in small-size businesses and minor enterprises, as well as unsalaried workers.

The confederation has also grown in the industrial zone of Nuevo Leon, where it is estimated to have 385,000 members, including 124,000 in industrial enterprises, according to Alfonso Garcia Alanis, legal director of COPARMEX [Employers Federation of the Mexican Republic], who said that the CROC unionizes workers in small and medium-sized enterprises, and in the transportation sector, and has succeeded in achieving a balance with the CTM that extends even to its political clout. It has three state congressmen, while the CTM has four. Mr. Garcia Alanis described CROC leaders as "good" in general terms, because they are "reasonable and because they have opted for the road to productivity."

In the opinion of Filiberto Lopez Diaz, member of the International Bar Association in Queretaro, "The CROC has become the avant-garde union model, together with FESEBES [Federation of Workers Unions in Goods and Services Enterprises] headed by Francisco Hernandez Juarez, and will eventually occupy the space left by the CTM when it disappears." The achievement, he says, is that "they have listened to the advice of investors and businessmen."

The CROC is not free of internal problems. In Tlaxcala, where it has been operative barely 15 years, it lost 16 unions on 4 October 1992, principally from the transportation sector. Nevertheless, it is maintaining hegemony in the industrial sector, and it claims to have 50 unions.

In the heart of a CTM zone such as Nayartit—zone of origin of Secretary Fidel Velazquez's alternate, Emilio M. Gonzalez—the CROC is going through a difficult and violent stage. It was formed there in 1989 with 5,000 members and lives in constant battle with the CTM for the unionization of construction workers. This was the cause of the standstill in the construction of the Crown Holiday Hotel, and there, according to our correspondent, the press insists that "the way is open for the CROC to advance and develop."

In Veracruz, where it had attained hegemony in the textile and brewing sectors, the CROC is headed by the son of one of Orizaba's great caciques, Jorge Sierra Gallardo, and has lost the Kimberly Clark and Montezuma contracts in the last few years. It claims, however, to have 42 organizations in Jalapa, 44 in the port of Veracruz, and 15 county executives. According to the Federal Labor Secretariat representative, Luis Arturo Ugalde, the CROC's policy line of "agreement and peace" has enhanced the confederation's prestige among new investors. And in the state, it is also unionizing municipal government workers. Labor specialist Edgar Cinta Pagola asserts that Veracruz's CROC has revealed that 200 CTM leaders are in jail for tax evasion, and that the CROC has begun a sustained growth "because it is combative and has exceeded the wage ceiling."

From field research it was learned that in Aguascalientes, where the CROC arrived in 1984, it has been unable to do more than affiliate construction workers, beauticians, and hairdressers, with no possibility, however, of wielding influence. There, it is headed by Demetrio Ruiz, who uses the "protective contracts" method and has not succeeded in acquiring a single political position.

The CROC's official figures indicate that in 1990 it had 4 million members. According to Zazueta and de la Pena, its membership as of 1980 totaled 850,000. According to the Institute of Strategic Proposals, it does not exceed 1.5 million. But the CROC maintains that its affiliation has doubled, and that the number of unions in the federal sector alone, recorded in the Secretariat of Labor as of 1989, has brought its total up to 236 versus 164 for the CTM. The CTM, which is dominated by COPARMEX, characterizes the CROC as a traditional, government-oriented confederation in constant competition with the CTM.

**[3 Mar p 13]**

[Text] The Revolutionary Confederation of Workers and Peasants [CROC] has been working since 1982 against the hegemony of the Confederation of Mexican Workers [CTM] in the Labor Congress [CT]. This policy has culminated over the past five months with the CROC's open adherence to the current administration's productivity projects, through pacts with the Democratic CROM [Regional Confederation of Mexican Workers] and FESEBES [Federation of Workers Unions in Goods and Services Enterprises], and its signing of an agreement with the National Solidarity Institute, in which Fidel Velazquez's CTM has declined to participate.

On 25 occasions over the past 10 years, the CROC has contravened the CTM's wage increase proposals, and has backed the CT. Its stated tactic is that wages must be earned by way of services rendered, and it maintains this in a small number of units—some 200—while in the others, according to model contracts gathered by LA JORNADA's special correspondents, it maintains minimum-wage and lower-than-minimum-wage standards.

In an analysis of the CROC's performance with respect to wage policy, involving a study of all the steps taken by the CROC in 1984—a time of confrontation between the CTM and Miguel de la Madrid's government—Armando Rendon, a researcher with the UAM [Metropolitan Autonomous University] at Xochimilco, shows that, during the cited period, the period in which the CROC began to grow, the CROC assumed a supportive stance toward the new economic plan, and that, at the time, Francisco Hernandez Juarez, today the leader of FESEBES, characterized the CROC's conduct as devoid of moral authority.

That year, the CROC took the position that the wage demands being pressed were counterproductive, in that they would adversely affect small and medium-sized industries.

Max Ortega, a professor at the UAM at Iztapalapa, affirms in a 30-page essay that the CROC's support of governmental wage policy over the past 10 years has been unconditional. He further affirms that this support has been the most characteristic trait of Alberto Juarez Blancas's CROC throughout that period. When to this conduct is added a policy of new union balances inside the CT that will be intensifying during this decade, the trend points toward a breaking up of unity.

In January 1983, it opposed the holding of a special meeting of the CNSM [National Committee on Minimum Wages] that had been agreed to by the CTM and FSTSE [Trade Unions Federation of Government Workers]. In May of that year it took no part in strike calls by the CT for a 50-percent wage increase. In 1984, when the CT demanded a 40-percent increase of the minimum wages, the CROC stated that it would abide by the decision of the CNSM without reservations. On the day following the setting of wage goals, the CROC met with the president of the republic, and stated that the CROC did "not support the CT's document of intent," drawn up for the purpose of demanding wage increases. The CROC was backed by Mario Suarez's CRT [Revolutionary Confederation of Workers], and, on 21 June, the CTM's demand that the CROC be expelled from the CT was followed by the largest-scale confrontation yet between the CROC and the CTM.

By the time of the 1985 round of wage negotiations, the CROC had gained additional allies against the CT's wage demands. It had with it the CROM, the CRT, and the FSTSE. On 31 May of that year, a wage increase not of 40 percent, but rather of 18 percent, was granted.

"We know that the CROC is altogether one with the administration, and that it does what the administration tells it to do. But in Coahuila, there is no independent organization that offers opportunities more in keeping with the workers' interests," a worker with Textiles El Carmen, in Saltillo, told LA JORNADA'S correspondent, adding, "At least, they do not use us to pressure the government for other interests, as happens with the CTM."

The CROC-CTM confrontation toward the end of 1987 was even bigger than their previous one had been, again over disagreements regarding emergency wage demands. When the CTM threatened a nationwide labor strike, Alberto Juarez Blancas opposed it, as did also Cuauhtemoc Paleta in the CROM and Hugo Domenxain in the FSTSE.

In the four years that followed (1988-91), says Ortega, wage control through pacts enjoyed fundamental support with the CROC as a means of "overcoming the CT's resistance and pressures."

The researcher summarizes: "During the first four years of the Salinas administration, the CROC supported the Economic Stability and Growth Pact [PECE]; it backed the National Accord on Raising Productivity and Quality; it joined the movement to modernize the labor unions; it signed the Workers and Peasants Pact; agreed to the PRI (regional) reform; and now, with the FESEBES alliance, it has started the process of union modernization."

Its task of weakening the CT's agreements while taking advantage of the CTM's weakness began aggressively in 1989, with modification of the mechanism for appointment of the president of the CT, beginning with the election of Jesus Lozano Contreras. There, the CROC gained its first alliance with the telephone workers union headed by Hernandez Juarez, and with other unions that later formed the FESEBES. And with that, Velazquez's implicit power to appoint the presidents of the CT came to an end. Lozano was the last to be appointed by Fidel Velazquez. And when Lozano took office, Velazquez did not attend his inauguration ceremony.

On 21 May 1992, the CROC proposed the candidacy of the CT's new president. It proposed Mario Suarez, the CT's current president. That year, no CTM proposal was sufficiently backed by its former allies.

The internal reorganization of forces within the CT, through the efforts of the CROC, took shape in the final months of that year with the signing of two agreements. One agreement was with the so-called Democratic CROM—headed by Silverio Alvarado, a former member of the CROC—on 20 September 1992, when the CROC undertook to "continue the union dialogue and consensus-building effort with all those national and international organizations with which we have similar views." Both groups also signed an undertaking to "vitalize the practice of unionism, revise and modernize the organic structure, methods, and systems of work." Through this agreement, it is said, the CROC's membership increased by 200,000 union members.

The unity of action agreement with the FESEBES does not add membership to either of them. It was based, however, on the intent to "build a new labor culture with a democratic set of union precepts that shall include the restructuring of labor unions, the modernization of enterprises, and the updating of labor policy." The CTM decided not to participate in this agreement. According to documents relating to the program, what most bothers the CTM is the freedom of association agreement signed by Mexico with the ILO [International Labor Organization], Agreement 72, and the one relative to the participation of middle management in the decisionmaking process of companies.

The unity-in-action process, however, according to the Unity With FESEBES document, begins with the training of leaders in what is to be the new trade union model.

To this end, in 1990, the CROC inaugurated a school of trade unionism that currently operates in the states of Mexico, Sonora, Nuevo Leon, and Jalisco, with the backing of the Christian-oriented CLAT [Latin American Confederation of Labor]. However, the CROC, over the past five years, has sent its middle management and

supervisory staff abroad to study the experiences of the British, Cuban, and other countries' trade unions.

The result with FESEBES was the signing of an agreement by both organizations with SEDESO's [Social Development Secretariat's] National Solidarity Institute, by virtue of which their members will be entitled to receive training in a new labor culture within the context of the president's industrial democracy proposal. The training program will include the revaluation of labor, socio-productive analysis, and information to support the union decisionmaking process in the "new socio-productive context."

Internally, the CT is bitterly critical of the CROC general secretary, because "he has never wanted to be president of the organization." Alberto Juarez Blancas, however, says that he does not care to be in an organization as weak as that organization is today.

**[4 Mar p 14]**

[Text] In recent years, the CROC [Revolutionary Confederation of Workers and Peasants] has tackled two new terrains: neighborhood and peasant organizations. In Puebla alone, it has promoted productive rural projects and membership among the peasants of the northern sierra and the Mixtecs of Puebla. It asserts it will bring together 700 neighborhood associations and up to 325,000 colonia [urban community] residents in three organizations.

Research by our special correspondents indicates that the CROC is promoting specific relations with Solidarity Programs in areas such as Tlaquepaque, Jalisco, and Tamaulipas, where the confederation asserts it has 70 civic associations among street vendors and colonia residents. In Tabasco, it was found that the confederation is mediating with 25,000 members in the colonia Emiliano Zapata, accused of selling an archaeological area.

Although historically the CROC has had unions in medium-sized and small industries, today it is slowly growing in civic areas. Upon being interviewed by correspondent Eduardo Mar de la Paz in a colonia in Tlaquepaque, Salvador Garcia, president of the Adolfo Lopez Mateo colonia residents union, stated that the organization's aim in this sector is to obtain benefits for the community, because "unlike the former county executive, Guero Barba," (the leader whom CROC carried to a federal congressional seat), "the present county executive does not belong to the CROC but rather to the UNE [National Union of Former CNOP Members], and he has almost no support."

Researcher Max Ortega concludes that with these activities, in addition to those it is pursuing in the political and wage policy fields, the CROC "has been a factor in the legitimization of the new neocorporate relations that, with the reform of the PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party], were instituted between the government party and the bureaucracies of the government-oriented unions."

Eleazar Ruiz Cerda, the CROC leader in Monterrey, stated that one of the confederation's four backbone activities is the organizing of colonia residents. In Monterrey, there is a Federation of Colonias of the Southern Metropolitan Area with 70 or 80 affiliated colonias, and he said that, in all, some 400 colonias throughout Nuevo Leon have joined.

He added that the task is that of looking after the growth of that city, where a serious land-ownership problem had risen. "Government programs were created as part of the task of the National Solidarity Institute, and this averted land-seizures."

In Tlaquepaque, said Garcia, there is a union of Family Mothers that distributes packets of provisions and other things. It also takes a census to determine the exact number of dwellings and colonia residents in that area—Las Huertas, Lopez Mateos and Canal 58. This underprivileged area, our special correspondent explains, has the aspect of a CROC-affiliated minicolonia in which people manage all their neighborhood needs through this confederation.

It is here where the PRI wins municipal and administrative elections. In the most recent election, Las Huertas obtained the highest number of votes for this party, but the change of sector caused the present county executive to obtain 50 percent of the votes, with respect to the federal congressman who happens to be a CROC member.

In the CROC, as in other labor confederations, positions and leadership jobs are inherited. There is division in Tijuana and in the State of Mexico. Many federations, as in the case of Jalisco and Puebla, have been the product of splits away from the CTM [Confederation of Mexican Workers]. But according to Jose Merced Gonzalez, director of the National Center for Social Promotion, who works with the labor movement, CROC's new leadership—although made up of sons of former leaders—"is different...more disposed to negotiate, and less authoritarian."

In the State of Mexico, Roberto Ruiz Angeles, state leader who inherited the job from his father Jose Ruiz Gonzalez—founder of the CROC—said that this confederation's most important achievement in recent years has been to gain control of Valle de Cuautitlan, become the third workers' and colonia residents' organizing force, and to have signed a special pact of mutual respect with governor Ignacio Pichardo.

In Puebla, one of the CROC's bastions, despite the fact that it is also a CTM bastion, regional leader Constantino Sanchez Romano stated that there is a mutual respect pact between the two organizations and indicated that since the 1930's [as published] the life of the

CROC has been "institutionalized." In addition to traditionally unionizing the construction, marble, and textile sectors, 70 percent of its groups are social: transportation workers—taxi drivers—retailers, professionals, and street vendors.

In at least seven of the organizations researched by our special correspondents there is a constant: Rank and file workers interviewed stated that they do not know the national leader Alberto Juarez Blancas. Those interviewed also said that they come from the CTM or the CROM [Regional Confederation of Mexican Workers], and asserted that it is better to belong to the CROC.

Tens of colonias organized by members of the CROC were discovered in Tamaulipas's southern zone. What has happened is that the CROC has a new profile. Francisco Javier Rangel Castillo, president of the Southern Tamaulipas Industrial Park, related that "lately, entrepreneurs signed a great many contracts with CROC, because they are more open, and this has put an end to the CTM's monopoly here."

The confederation's regional activity was given its impetus by the PRI's 14th National Assembly, judging from the start and origin of some organizations recorded in CROC's official documents. With the 1980 change in bylaws as its point of departure, the CROC broadened its range of action and intensified these activities, said Roberto Castellanos Tovar, the CROC leader in the Federal District. At that point, the political and strategic foundations for growth were also laid.

In his latest report, during his third term, it was Juarez Blancas's recommendation that: "The need to create new cadres, so as to ensure good industrial relations in the future, must be the concern of us all as leaders." His report outlines the CROC plan to sally forth into the countryside, where the changes in Article 27 of its constitution "open new roads, new possibilities of growth for workers organizations."

## El Salvador

### FMLN Says Peace Process Stalemated by Lack of Will

*PA0505225993 San Salvador Radio Farabundo Marti Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 May 93*

[Report by Guillermo Rivera]

[Text] There is no will to settle problems created by the peace process; quite the contrary, efforts are being made to worsen them, Jorge Shafik Handal, coordinator general of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], said on 3 May at a news conference attended by all members of the former FMLN General Command.

The members of the FMLN Party's Political Commission listed all the problems the government has created and reaffirmed that the peace process is stalemated and this could breed instability in El Salvador.

Joaquin Villalobos, Leonel Gonzalez, Roberto Roca [Francisco Jovel], Ferman Cienfuegos [Eduardo Sancho Casteneda], and Shafik Handal explained why the peace process is in crisis. Shafik Handal said this situation cannot continue and added the FMLN will ensure it does not. He said the FMLN will ensure the peace process continues:

[Begin Handal recording] There is no willingness to settle problems, but they are willing to worsen them and to do nothing to settle them. All the Truth Commission recommendations, especially those on the much needed judicial system reforms, are stalemated. Some of the reforms are proceeding adequately and we are not questioning them. There is, however, a large package of judicial system reforms that is paralyzed. As a result no one trusts the administration of justice; justice is not administered.

We think this is very serious; this is a sensitive issue. Those efforts reflect the wishes of the dominant current within the Nationalist Republican Alliance, which is supporting the candidacy of Armando Calderon Sol. We worry this could spoil the entire peace negotiation process. We will not let this happen. This is no game. They are claiming the FMLN is uncoordinated, weak, and so on, because there are differences of opinion within the FMLN on the electoral process. That is untrue. On behalf of the FMLN, especially its Political Commission, I would like to say we will stop this deterioration of the Chapultepec Agreements. [end recording]

The FMLN leaders added that their party has done its part, thus suggesting it has complied with its commitments and now the government must comply with its own. The FMLN said the only commitment pending for them is the destruction of missiles, but an agreement exists on this issue. It states their destruction will take place after an Army purge.

In view of the paralysis of the peace process, Shafik Handal said in the next few days the FMLN will forward to the UN Observers for El Salvador a timetable of pending commitments that were delayed in the past few weeks.

## Guatemala

### Bomb Explodes at Government Electricity Company Offices 4 May

*PA0505131293 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0544 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Guatemala City, 4 May [NOTIMEX]—The Voluntary Fire Department has reported that a high-powered bomb exploded on the evening of 4 May at the main offices of the government Electricity Company (EGSA) in Zone 9 of this city.

The explosion occurred just hours before the government and guerrilla delegations were to begin a round of talks on 5 May in Mexico.

The Fire Department reported that it had received anonymous calls during the afternoon and evening warning that bombs would explode in several parts of the city.

The incident comes after loud protests by the population during the week against an increase in electricity bills.

Following the beginning of peace talks in Mexico and massive protests against the increase in electricity bills some 20 days ago, three bombs exploded at different EGSA offices.

A total of 15 bombs have exploded in various parts of the country since January 1993.

### URNG Members Hold Rallies, Confiscate Weapons of Local Police

*PA0505224593 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2027 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Guatemala City, 5 May (NOTIMEX)—It was disclosed on 5 May that members of the Guatemala National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) occupied the capital cities of Santa Rosa and San Marcos Departments, where they carried out (political) rallies and confiscated weapons from local police.

According to a URNG communique made public 5 May in Guatemala City, on 4 May several rebel columns occupied the southern Department of Santa Rosa and the western Department of San Marcos, as well as other villages in both departments.

The insurgents carried out political rallies aimed at the community residents for more than five hours and shouted slogans against the administration of President Jorge Serrano Elias.

The guerrillas also confiscated weapons belonging to police units stationed in both departments. In addition,

they distributed political propaganda urging the population to join them in their struggle against the Army.

The guerrilla operation is taking place at a time when the URNG and government representatives are starting a new round of talks in Mexico aimed at achieving peace in Guatemala.

In addition, the Army Press and Information Department (DIDE) reported that a nine-year-old boy had been injured in the community of San Luis, Peten Department, when a booby trap mine accidentally exploded.

The youngster, Hermelindo Cucucl Chun stumbled [words indistinct] was placed by the guerrillas, and sustained several injuries as result of the explosion.

The DIDE also confirmed that on 2 May a group of guerrillas destroyed the electrical energy towers in the community of Ixtahuacan, located in the north western Department of Huehuetenango.

The insurgents placed several explosive devises near the base of the electrical energy towers and left the communities of Cuilco, San Pedro Necta, La Libertad, and La Democracia without any electricity. These communities are all located near the Mexican border.

### Workers Confederation Warns of 'Danger of a Coup'

*PA0505194293 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1836 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Guatemala City, 5 May (NOTIMEX) —The General Confederation of Guatemalan Workers (CGTG), which represents over 84,000 unionized workers, warned on 5 May about the danger of a coup in this country.

The CGTG warned of the "imminent implementation of a state of siege because of the power vacuum and lack of ability to govern that mark President Jorge Serrano Elias' administration."

During a news conference, CGTG leader Jose Pinzon Salazar said the country's political and social crisis could lead to the return of a militaristic and undemocratic systems. He added that Guatemalan workers do not support a coup d'etat as a means to solve the country's problems, including the 33-year-old armed conflict that has claimed 175,000 lives.

He said that the current administration has been characterized by a lack of ethical and moral principles, which has cast the country adrift amidst poverty, lack of health centers, and structural adjustment policies.

Pinzon said that Guatemalans are weary of the dark past that has left a toll of bloodshed, corruption, and squandering of the country's resources.

The union leader said that in the past two civilian governments corruption "has taken root in Guatemala" prompting widespread rejection.

"The errors and horrors of democracy can only be cured and corrected with more democracy, which is why any coup would only lead to the country's stagnation," he added.

The labor leader also said the economic and social crisis is "painfully" hitting workers and the neediest sectors of society in general.

He called on all Guatemalans to fight the corruption and squandering that characterizes the current government.

In addition, he held the government responsible for possible social outbursts caused by the increase in energy rates and the implementation of neoliberal polices imposed by the IMF and the World Bank.

Pinzon said that peace will not be attained without social justice in Guatemala. "It is not enough to silence the rifles; we must uproot the problems that led to the armed conflict."

### Mediator Issues Peace Agreement 'Timetable Commitment'

*PA0505223693 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 1 May 93 p 3*

[Text] The Guatemalan Government and guerrilla delegations will meet in the Mexican capital again on 5 May to continue the negotiations on the human rights issue in the framework of the process to attain a firm and lasting peace.

Monsignor Rodolfo Quezada Toruno, president of the National Reconciliation Commission, issued Document No. 3, entitled Commitment Document [Documento de Compromiso], on 19 April 1993, which includes a "Timetable Commitment," as follows:

To accelerate the process in an orderly and rational manner, which will allow for the signing of a firm and lasting peace agreement in the shortest possible time, the sides would agree to establish the following basic timetable:

A minimum of 10 work sessions will take place beginning on 2 May 1993 aimed at the discussion and signature of agreements in accordance with the Mexico City negotiations.

I. Resettlement of the people who have had to leave their lands because of the armed conflict;
II. Strengthening of civilian power and the Army in a democratic society;
III. Identity and rights of Indian peoples;
IV. Socioeconomic aspects;
V. Constitutional reforms and electoral regimen;
VI. Conditions for the return of the URNG [National Guatemalan Revolutionary Unity] to the country's political life;
VII. Arrangements for a definitive cease-fire;
VIII. Timetable for the implementation, fulfillment, and verification of the agreements; and

IX. Signature of a firm and lasting peace agreement and demobilization.

According to the Commitment Document issued by the mediator, the discussion of the topics will take place according to the recommendations contained in the overall URNG proposal of April 1992 and the government's response in June of that same year.

During Phase 1, from 2 May (5 May according to the citation) to 21 August 1993 the following topics will be discussed at the negotiating table: Resettlement of the people who have had to leave their homelands and rights of the Indian communities.

At a different table the delegations will discuss the strengthening of civilian power and duties of the Army in a democratic society, as well as the arrangements for a definitive cease-fire.

### Mediator's Remarks Noted

*PA0505224193 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 4 May 93 p3*

[Text] On 1 May, SIGLO VEINTIUNO disclosed proposals that could serve as the basis for a potential agreement between the government and the URNG [Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity], which will resume their peace talks in Mexico on Wednesday, 5 May.

Among those reacting on 3 May to the published report were Monsignor Rodolfo Quezada Toruno, National Reconciliation Commission president, who mentioned three main aspects: The facts, the nature of the document, and the interpretation of the document.

On the first point, he said that, as was reported recently, he, as conciliator and with the authority the two sides conferred upon him by common agreement, had delivered to the sides the aforementioned Document No. 3.

Then, he said "it is not a proposal by the conciliator or a previous agreement. It is not something the sides had fully agreed on. It is not a solution that has the characteristics of a mediation on points the sides agree on."

Msgr. Quezada added that "the document contains the issues by the sides on aspects still under discussion at the negotiating table," as well as the serious discrepancies. It also includes "aspects the conciliator feels could be possible paths to a solution."

The conciliator said that the document was drafted "at the end of the last round of talks so that the sides could analyze it and use it as a work and reference document" during the next meeting. "But most of all, this is a confidential document," he said.

Regarding its interpretation, Quezada said "on one side, a document to facilitate the discussion by the sides cannot and must not be regarded as a previous agreement." Nor is it, he said, "aimed at creating false expectations of an immediate cease-fire."

Msgr. Quezada said the sides have voiced their strong commitment to discuss all the topics in the Mexico Agreement, including substantial, as well as operational points, which is why it is not a matter of merely establishing a date for the cease-fire.

The conciliator mentioned the difficulties that exist to reach an agreement in the negotiations, which involves topics such as the preeminence of civilian rule and the function of the Army in a democratic society.

According to the URNG, this entails specific agreements on the immediate disbandment of the Civilian Self-Defense Patrols, the reduction of the Armed Forces, and the purge of the military commands.

Other points included are an agreement on the arrangement for a definite bilateral cease-fire, which entails the separation of the forces and using the UN mechanism to verify compliance.

"I wish to reaffirm that only after those agreements are reached would the sides be ready to establish a date for a definite bilateral cease-fire, which is why it is illogical to mention a possible date beforehand," Msgr. Quezada indicated.

To conclude, he said that although several points of agreement exist, serious differences remain on some points, which may hamper the signing of an agreement, therefore, "making advancements entails greater political commitments from both sides."

The government is respectful of any confidential proposal that the conciliator may have submitted, Arturo Alvarado Perez, public relations secretary of the Presidential Palace, said.

In a 2 May communique, the URNG General Command accused the government of leaking to the press a document under discussion at the negotiating table. Alvarado stated that whenever documents requiring confidentiality have been submitted, as a logical part of the negotiations, the government has honored the request and felt the URNG has also.

He affirmed the government does not know where the leak originated, adding an inquiry will be conducted, as is to be expected with this kind of publication, since only the interested parties and their advisers handle these documents.

### Police Capture Cali Cartel Communications Unit

*PA0505194393 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 4 May 93 p 5*

[Text] National Police agents captured the communications unit for one of the Colombian drug cartels in our county, following several months of investigation. In addition to the arrests, the police seized weapons,

ammunition, explosives, and a vehicle. The most important catch, however, was the communications and air navigation signals network used by the drug traffickers' airplanes.

The police arrested Jose Antonio Avila Dieguez and Rigoberto Antonio Morales Barrientos, both of whom were Guatemalan citizens of legal age. The arrests were made at 4th Avenue and 13th Street, Esquintla, the capital city of Esquintla Province, 56 km south of Guatemala City.

Special National Police agents had been searching for the men for months because they had suspected them to be in charge of radio communications for the Cali Cartel. According to Marshal MQ, of the narcotics operations department of the National Police, the Cali Cartel has its tentacles embedded in the very heart of our country.

Police agents confiscated a pickup truck with license plate P-31886—not registered at the Police Department or the Finance Ministry—a Pietro Bereta 9-mm automatic pistol, a clip with 15 bullets, a second 9-mm pistol, a clip with nine bullets, a submachine gun with 30 bullets, a 3.8 caliber Uzi machine gun, two hand grenades, and 50 5-mm bullets.

Our sources told us that part of the communication unit's equipment included harpoons, anchors, and buoys, used to "tie down" the cocaine loads the drug traffickers dropped from their airplanes into the waters off the Guatemalan Pacific coastline.

It was reported that this is the first time the National Police have found and captured such equipment in their operations to counter drug trafficking in the country.

The sources added that it is noteworthy that this type of equipment is not sold in Guatemala and was acquired in the United States, according to the labeling found.

This would imply, said our sources, that drug-trafficking operations in Guatemala have a large-scale communications network, allowing them to smuggle equipment, weapons, ammunition, and other things into the country.

Our sources also said that the discovery of this unit has provided vital information about the drug-trafficking activities in Guatemala.

## Honduras

### Ex-Hondutel President Says Enterprise Tapping Private Telephones

*PA0505024893 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 May 93 p2*

[Text] On 30 April, Carlos Kellner, former president of the union of the Honduran Telecommunications Enterprise, Hondutel, which is operated by the military, charged that this enterprise is tapping a large number of private telephones, including those belonging to President Callejas.

In addition, it is tapping the telephones of the National Congress, the Supreme Court, politicians, businessmen, opposition groups, and private banks in order to gain advantages and keep close tabs on the movements of public opinion sectors.

Kellner, accused of embezzlement of funds of the Union of Honduran Telecommunications Workers [Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Telecomunicacion de Honduras, Sitratelh], charged that Armed Forces Chief General Luis Alonso Discua is involved in acts of corruption. He said that Discua reportedly used third persons or enterprises to supply Hondutel with material and equipment, and thus, obtain large sums of money from that activity.

According to testimony broadcast on Radio America, Keller "felt compelled to leave the country, with other Sitratelh leaders, because of the merciless political persecution started by the military in Honduras." The whereabouts of these leaders was not disclosed.

He said that it was "not until 1992 that we discovered that the military officers had been tapping telephones since the 1980's. They had been doing this without a court order and without the support of the civilian government." He said this was confirmed by "the telephone distributor."

There he discovered that "the Honduran military officers tap and record the conversations of important politicians, businessmen, and union members, the Honduran Human Rights Defense Committee [CODEH], banks, courts, the Supreme Court, the National Congress, and even the president of the Republic."

According to Kellner, approximately 2,000 people have been monitored since the 1980's.

He added that tapping operations are controlled from Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula. The operations are controlled in San Pedro Sula from offices on the second floor of the Hondutel building, located on 5th Avenue. This office was headed by Ramon Flores, chief of the telephone distribution department. Flores still keeps a list of the telephones he tapped. He resigned due to pressures from Colonel Zaldivar Porta.

The operation continued under Leopoldo Siu, who is now retired. Kellner asked CODEH to protect these two officials "because they know more names...and thus, they are running the risk of being killed by the military."

Telephone tapping operations in San Pedro Sula were run by "active military intelligence agents Daniel Canales and Esteban Castro," he said. They used cable number 11 of branch 11-01 located in front of the Atlantida Bank opposite the 105th Brigade headquarters.

Telephone tapping operations were carried out in the Miraflores plant of Comayaguela in the downtown part of the capital city.

Kellner explained that "they used the primary circuits 1701 to 1720, which means they had 20 circuits to monitor during the day and night."

Among the persons affected were Edgardo Dumas Rodriguez, Gabriel Garcia Ardon, Jaime and Edwin Rosenthal Oliva, Carlos Kattan Salem, Carlos Flores Facusse, former Presidents Roberto Suazo Cordova and Jose Azcona, politicians Carlos Roberto and Jorge Arturo Reina, Miguel Angel Pavon (killed in 1988 in San Pedro Sula) and Luis German Lagos.

According to Kellner, the telephones of LA PRENSA, TIEMPO, Radio America, businessman Jose Rafael Ferrari, and political analysts Gautama Fonseca, German Leitzelar, and Olbin Rodriguez have also been tapped.

He also mentioned the following institutions: CODEH, Supreme Court of Justice, National Congress, Unitary Federation of Honduran Workers, National Enterprise for Electric Power Workers Union, Central Federation of Unions of Free Workers of Honduras, Trade Union Federation of Northern Honduran Workers, Confederation of Honduran Workers, General Workers' Federation, Social Democratic Innovation and Unity Party, Banco de Occidente, and Banco Atlantida.

The wiretapping reached the presidential building's hallways and lobbies, the offices of businessmen and industrialists associations, as well as that of former university Professor Cayo Eng Lee.

In addition, "officers' wives recorded the conversations of other women whom they wanted to do harm."

Kellner stated that during an unscheduled Sitratelh congress in August 1990, he informed the delegates on the beginning of a struggle to free the state enterprise from the military's influence with the unionists' help. He said the enterprise has acted as the means to hire wives, relatives, and mistresses of the military.

Col. Inocente Borjas, who was the commander of Brigade 105, participated in the plot because "he sent for Sergeant Selvin Reyes, operator of circuit 193, and ordered him to file more charges of robbery against several union leaders."

The arrest warrant was obtained "through pressure on the courts," which resulted in Kellner's arrest and incarceration in the DIN [Department of National Investigation] jail, where he was tortured at least six times over one weekend.

"They blindfolded me, tied my hands behind my back and locked me in a room. They hit my stomach until I fell to the floor and they insulted me and called me animal, beast, garbage," he added.

One of the torturers "placed me on my stomach and put his knee on my back while the other one put the hood on me."

Kellner said that when they removed the hood "they told me: You will quit Hondutel and the union and you will not say any more sh... about the telephone tapping and the military."

The horror ended when, weakened by the beating, "I said I would quit so they would stop torturing me."

The former union leader was sent to the jail in San Pedro Sula, where he stayed for seven days. Rigoberto Castellanos, president of Sitratelh, was there. He had privileges because of his friendship with Avila Soleno.

Keller obtained his liberty thanks to the efforts of Roberto Alonso Matute, National Congress vice president, and Mario Adelmo Tinoco.

The day of his liberation, LA PRENSA and another San Pedro Sula newspaper published "a false report saying convicts had been set free, accompanied by a photograph of me behind a wire fence taken during a strike, not at the jail."

However, "after leaving the jail, I was followed by Military Intelligence agents in cars with tinted windows and no license plates," he said.

"They parked for long periods of time in front of my house, every night, with the engine off and the lights on. The anonymous calls saying they would kill me became more frequent, which destroyed my family's tranquillity," he said.

Kellner stated that not even his children escaped the persecution from the military as "DIN members went to the San Vicente De Paul school to point out my two children to intimidate me."

Everything that has been stated is recorded in the CODEH files in San Pedro Sula, he said.

Since "the military knew they could not kill me because my case was very publicized, they decided to destroy me through other means" and "filed more criminal charges that did not succeed because it was a case of political persecution," he said.

In December 1992, Kellner left the country "due to the circumstances" and said he would return when a civilian government puts the military institution in its place.

### Armed Forces Chief Denies Tapping Telephones

*PA0505031393 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 May 93 p 46*

[Text] San Pedro Sula—Armed Forces Chief Division General Luis Alonso Discua Elvir described former Honduran Telecommunications Enterprise Union President Carlos Kellner and the two policemen who sought

protection from the Honduran Human Rights Defense Committee [CODEH] as delinquents.

Discua Elvir, who took part in the North Military High School anniversary celebrations, was referring to Kellner's charges that hundreds of telephones, including the president's, are tapped by the Armed Forces.

"I was surprised at the information because I understood that Mr. Kellner was under arrest for embezzling 1.5 million lempira from the union," the military leader said.

Discua Elvir said that the former union leader is a fugitive "therefore, he is a garden variety criminal" and asked the media not to cover statements from "a delinquent who has deceived the Honduran people."

He denied that the Armed Forces have tapped the telephones of businessmen, politicians, and even the officers themselves.

The military leader also referred to the decision by the CODEH to protect Public Security Forces Lieutenant Carlos Roberto Ponce and former Department of National Investigation agent Efrain Amaya.

"The Human Rights High Commissioner is protecting officers and soldiers who have been discharged for being irresponsible and delinquents," Discua Elvir said.

### Remarks on Charges

*PA0605025693 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 5 May 93*

[Report on interview with General Alonso Discua Elvir, Armed Forces chief, by Lucia Alvarado in Tegucigalpa on 4 May; passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] General Luis Alonso Discua Elvir, Armed Forces chief, said on 4 May that the Armed Forces will file charges against those individuals who have made statements against them. He stated that the reports made by former members of the Armed Forces were expected, as these people are resentful about their dishonorable discharges. The Army chief delivered 250 tear gas launchers and 26,000 tear gas canisters to the Public Security Forces in order to control crime and vandalism in the country. He had already delivered 500 38-caliber revolvers.

Answering questions about the methods the police use to control crime, for which they have been strongly criticized, Discua said that these methods must change. The police must modernize, but there are standard procedures that are used worldwide. He added that the police are always criticized throughout the world. The military commander said that the police will continue to purge its ranks.

[Discua] "The police will continue to purge its ranks and prevent people who are against the police mission from remaining on the force. Of course, those who are dismissed from the force will be resentful, because we are not allowing them to continue their improper behavior. We were expecting this sort of thing from the moment the police created and organized an internal affairs office. We must be prepared, because those who feel bitter about being dismissed for inappropriate behavior, out of spite, will file their complaints through the media and other organizations to harm other members of the police force."

Discua stated the following regarding Lieutenant Carlos Ponce Rosales, a former member of the forces who was given a dishonorable discharge, and the charges he has made against several active duty officers for allegedly participating in the attack against journalist Rodrigo Wong Arevalo:

[Discua] "The court is authorized to issue the appropriate summons based on the deposition this individual made before the court. Such is the case of Mr. Wong Arevalo, as well as the other people this individual implicated in the case through his testimony. They will be called to appear before the court to give their testimony, with the police officers, who will also offer their report to the proper authority."

Gen. Discua Elvir said that the Armed Forces will continue to purge their ranks. He added that the truth will emerge and he expressed the hope that the Armed Forces will have the people's trust. Regarding the accusations made by Carlos Kellner, a former member of the Honduran Telecommunications Enterprise [Hondutel] workers union, who said that the Armed forces ordered telephone line tapping, Discua said:

[Discua] "I would like to say that in a matter of hours the general management of Hondutel, along with technicians from the commutator plants, will explain if it is possible to do what this Kellner person has said publicly."

[Alvarado] "Is telephone tapping possible, general?"

[Discua] "As far as I know, it is not possible to tap telephone lines at the Hondutel commutator installations. The modern equipment does not allow it. You must keep in mind that telecommunications now travel via satellite, which can be intercepted or blocked, but we do not yet have that capability."

[Alvarado] "Despite that, it has been said that only a court order requested through the workers union could authorize tapping."

[Discua] "I believe it can be done, but it is a job that must be done within the installations....[pauses] I think it could be done. I do not know. I do not have that information. If there is a court order, I think it could be....[pauses] I do not know, but I think the technicians could clear that up."

The Armed Forces have adopted specific measures to face the opening of borders within the framework of the Free Trade Agreement.

[Discua] "The fact that we have entered the process of regional integration makes it necessary for the police and the Armed Forces to adopt specific measures. We must update our resources to face possible criminal actions. The integration process will be of great benefit for Central American countries. At the same time, however, we must conduct efforts to prevent the criminals from escaping or an increase in criminal activities that would require stronger police action."

Discua said the Armed Forces will file suits against persons who have made accusations against the institution.

[Discua] "We will file lawsuits and we have already taken steps to initiate the appropriate legal proceedings."

[Alvarado] "Mr. Kellner directly accused you of owning several enterprises that supply Hondutel, from which you have made large profits."
[Discus] "That is totally false. At no time....[pauses] I do not know of any such enterprise. I have never been in that business. My family has owned a transportation company for many years. That has been the family business since 1954."

Discua was also asked about the possibility of increasing the presidential term.

[Discua] "You must remember that there is an article in the Constitution that clearly outlines the primary responsibilities of the Armed Forces. I believe that is a political matter and therefore should be handled as such. The Armed Forces are not involved in any political activity that could be taking place at this time. We faithfully abide by the Constitution."

On another subject, Discua referred to the controversial recruitment issue.

[Discua] "This is a very difficult subject. We are doing everything possible to prevent that procedure, as military service is already specified in the Constitution as a duty of all Honduran citizens. We are working on that and hope the situation will change. We are reviewing our cadres, studying possible alternatives, and determining what we can offer citizens who join military units in the Army, Navy, or Air Force."

Discua denied soldiers feel cornered by constant charges against the Armed Force. He said they will not yield to provocations, as they are professional soldiers.

## Armed Forces Chief Gives Labor Day Message

*PA0505144193 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 1 May 93 p 20*

[Text of message from Division General Luis Alonso Discua Elvir, chief of the Armed Forces, to workers and peasants on 1 May]

[Text] Workers and peasants:

Again we celebrate International Labor Day, a very important day in Honduras because in May 1954, the field-workers movement began its struggle for economic and social improvements in the banana-growing sector of the northern coast.

Such action was later imitated by workers in the cities and fields who, after many years and many transforming struggles, have built a dynamic, strong, analytical, and visionary movement.

There have been many interventions in which the organized workers have brought about advancement of the nation's democracy and political stability, coinciding on points of view with our Armed Institution regarding national interests as being more important than personal or group interests. By not understanding such positions, the country has been guided toward economic disaster and social anarchy, which have benefited only a few to the detriment of many.

The world has changed and the transformations are felt in Honduras. They are affecting the social groups—some more than others—that form our society.

Now that the cold war stage has ended and a new political, economic, social, religious, and cultural reality has emerged in the world, the workers movement, and the Armed Forces have been forced to redirect their role to adapt to the new challenges of development.

There are still small political groups, however, manipulating the spirit of solidarity among Hondurans and seeking to politicize, in their favor, the tasks and efforts undertaken by the Government of the Republic to improve human rights. It is a task that has the full support of the Armed Forces as it believes that political pluralism must exist within the framework of Laws and Legality.

It could not have been any other way, since the human components of the Armed Forces come from the people themselves, and their interventions in the past have been precisely to guarantee their own security, individually and collectively.

The workers, peasants, and professional organizations that respect the framework of the national redeeming organization have had, and continue to have, in the members of the Armed Forces a servant willing to listen to them. We understand that the social changes must not stop but, instead, be promoted in the framework of political and economic possibilities so that social justice may guide the country through the path of peace, work, and progress.

On this important date, we transmit, in the name of all the Armed Forces members, our message to the men and women who, organized in unions, are an important factor in the overall development of the country.

Health to the Honduran Workers!
[Issued] 1 May 1993, Comayaguela.

### Armed Forces Officers Named in 1986 Assassination Attempt on Journalist

*PA0505043893 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 May 93 p 5*

[Excerpt] Four Armed Forces officers, two colonels and two lieutenants, were said to be part of a special commando unit that tried to assassinate journalist Rodrigo Wong Arevalo in a dynamite attack with C-4 explosives, used exclusively by the Armed Forces, on 4 August 1986.

Investigations by LA PRENSA identified only three of them: Colonel Alberto Andino Benitez, Lieutenant Gustavo Dominguez, and Lt. Carlos Edgardo Jiminson. Dominguez and Jiminson had been assigned in the past few months to the Intelligence and Homicide branch of the Department of National Investigation, DNI, in this city.

According to the investigations, the commando unit was formed in compliance with a higher order. It is suspected that the masterminds were Humberto Regalado Hernandez, then chief of the Armed Forces, and Col. Roberto Nunez Montes, chief of G-2 Military Intelligence.

The implication of five of the six officers in the plot to assassinate Wong Arevalo was revealed under oath to Maria Antonieta Mendoza de Castro, Second Criminal Court judge, by Carlos Roberto Ponce Rosales, a police lieutenant assigned to Marcala, La Paz, who asked Leo Valladares, human rights commissioner, for protection.

Judge Mendoza de Castro summoned Wong Arevalo on 30 April to render sworn testimony on the attack.

Before entering the judge's office, Wong Arevalo said that he always suspected that Nunez Montes was behind the criminal operation, probably because he as then director of Radio America had reported deals made by the military with the aid sent by the United States to maintain the contras in Honduras. [passage omitted]

## Nicaragua

### UNO Deputies Present Demands at Government Dialogue Meeting

*PA0605030293 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 5 May 93 p 12*

[Text] National Opposition Union [UNO] Center Group deputies, fourth in the batters' lineup at the government dialogue meeting, presented demands that were mostly of an economic nature and abstained from discussing legislative matters because "our problems are resolved at the National Assembly and not with the president," representative Alejandro Solorzano said on 4 May.

At the meeting, which lasted over three hours and was attended by 11 deputies from this third force in the Assembly, a "cold and levelheaded" analysis was made of the three years of the Violeta Chamorro government, the union deputy said.

On the topic of constitutional reform, in vogue among political circles, Solorzano said that the Constitution needs to be modernized, to "bring it in line with the Nicaraguan people's social, political, and economic reality." He said that no specifics were discussed.

"No details were discussed; we mentioned generalities, which will form the basis of future meetings the government will sponsor," he said.

Among the economic proposals the Center Group made are the urgent call to drop bank interest rates for agricultural and cattle production and to finance civilian construction to generate jobs.

The creation of a prosecutor for human rights was also proposed. The Center Group requested that the Yatama Indians be incorporated into the next round of talks.

### Workers Organization Says Dialogue 'Another Act of Treason'

*PA0605034593 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 May 93*

[Communique issued by the Central Organization of Nicaraguan Workers, CTN, Executive Committee, issued in Managua on 4 May]

[Text] The government-FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] dialogue is another act of treason against the people.

The Central Organization of Nicaraguan Workers, CTN, believes dialogues are a civilized means of solving the country's problems and finding balanced solutions, but the CTN will never forget that those at the center of the dialogue, Antonio Lacayo, Daniel Ortega, and others, still have their hands covered with blood because of all the crimes they committed against our youth and our people. If they washed their hands in the River Jordan, its waters would be eternally filled with blood.

The so-called opposition that went to the well-advertised dialogue easily forgot about the punishment people have been demanding for the assassins of more than 200 former members of the Nicaraguan Resistance, who are now in hidden cemeteries, which Fabio Gadea, in his love letters to Nicaragua, called cemeteries without crosses.

On 3 May, the progovernment and Sandinist media took to the task of promoting the national dialogue, in which the so-called National Opposition Union decided to participate in a cheap circus, making the people believe the most deeply felt problems of the Nicaraguan people would be discussed there.

The so-called opposition also forgot that the president, violating the political Constitution, ordered the military to occupy the National Assembly and the Comptroller General's Office. It also forgot that the president has

called for a privatization process that has become a smokescreen allowing the family in power and the FSLN to get richer by the day.

For the past three years it has been very sad to see the so-called opposition try to reach the Nicaraguan Presidency. The CTN reminds the Nicaraguan people that those who have appeared in the media, especially on television newscasts, making euphoric statements and shaking hands are accomplices of those who burned the Managua Mayor's Office, which belongs to the people, and blew up Radio Corporacion, Radio Mundial, and other radio stations.

These politicians apparently forgot about the tactical dialogues convened by the FSLN in the past to improve its image and sell it to the world.

Four years after managing Nicaragua as their own ranch, something Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal always fought, today they are the accomplices of what Somozist Deputy Sergio Ramirez Mercado wrote in his book "Confusion and Outrage."

We have reached the conclusion that at the center of the ill- famed national dialogue and the decision that will be made by the government, there is a complicity with Daniel Ortega, Humberto Ortega, and their associates, and not with the opposition parties and other participants.

Honor and glory to those who unite for Nicaragua and its people.

[Issued] Managua, 4 May 1993

[Signed] CTN Executive Committee

## Panama

### FARC Source Says Missionaries 'Alive'

*PA0505184893 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 May 93 p2a*

[Report by Rogelio Alba]

[Excerpts] The three New Tribes' missionaries kidnapped in January by suspected Colombian guerrillas "are alive," a member of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) told a spokesman of the Indian communities on the Darien border. [passage omitted]

According to a source whose identity was not disclosed, one of the guerrillas recently met with area residents and told them that "the guerrillas do not have any problems with the Indians because our intention is to free the Panamanian people from the hands of the gorillas [as published] of North America."

According to various reports, the FARC reportedly asked for a $5 million ransom from the hostages' relatives and from the "New Tribes" organization. This figure has not been confirmed, however, by official or independent sources.

Panamanian authorities are keeping silent about the investigations on this matter.

The alleged FARC spokesman said that they expect to release the missionaries once they receive the ransom.

### Government Minister on U.S. Army Commander, Terrorism

*PA0605013093 Panama City Telemetro Television Network in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Democracy is built with facts and not with weapons, Government Minister Juan Chevalier said, referring to the work carried out by Major General Richard F. Timmons, commander of the U.S. Army South, who was replaced in his post in Panama on 5 May.

Chevalier also spoke about terrorism, saying that media terrorism also exists.

[Begin recording] [Chevalier] The people always think that democracy is maintained by the force of weapons. That is not so. The U.S. Army South, under the command of Gen. Timmons, has demonstrated that democracy is carried out with specific projects, the building of highways, repairing of hospitals, repairing of aqueducts, digging of artesian wells, and building of access roads. That is what helps to strengthen democracy.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr. Minister, the president said that there would be information soon on the attack in Boquete. What can you tell us about this?
[Chevalier] Well, he said that and I have reports similar to his. I have to respect the president. He is the one who must give the information.

[Reporter] [words indistinct] who was going to be questioned on 5 May. What have you learned?
[Chevalier] I have no comment on that.

[Reporter] Would you say there are terrorists in Panama?
[Chevalier] I have never said there aren't any. What I don't like are the first and last names they seek to attach to such things. There are terrorists. The proof is that one blew himself up. He was a terrorist and a bad one at that.

[Reporter] What would you call it then?
[Chevalier] I wouldn't label it. Of course there is terrorism. There is not only terrorism by bombing. There is also media terrorism. Keep that in mind.

[Reporter] Mr. Minister, how....
[Chevalier, interrupting] Terrorism is waged in a lot of ways.

[Reporter] How can you explain why no one has been arrested in connection with the attack?
[Chevalier] Who told you that no one has been arrested? [end recording]

## Clinton's 'Keen Political Nose,' U.S. Foreign Policy Viewed

*PA0605012693 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 5 May 93 p 1-A*

[From the "Panama's Pulse" column]

[Text]

### Clinton

He has a keen political nose. He focused his presidential campaign on the languishing and quite unsatisfactory state of the U.S. economy. He did the impossible by preventing the electorate from being distracted by other issues. Consequently, the election revolved around an issue that was quite unfavorable for his predecessor. Clinton's victory was overwhelming.

### Forgetting

Foreign policy played a very small role in the Clinton-Bush conflict. The hemisphere was deliberately relegated to oblivion. There was no mention whatsoever of the considerable damage done to the Spanish-speaking countries by a cold war in which social reform and communism were often confused.

Finally, Deputy Secretary of State Clifton Wharton has coherently outlined Latin American policy for the new administration. The three fundamental points are: democracy, free markets, and the battle against corruption. Without popular participation, there will be no future with dignity for our (Latin American) countries. Economic progress is impossible if the markets of the industrialized world are closed. Within the pathology of representative political systems, corruption is all too common and is the most dangerous sickness.

## Transportation Sector, Legislators Reach Agreement on Draft Bill

*PA0505150493 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 May 93*

[Text] After six hours of talks, transportation sector workers and legislators arrived at an agreement on a draft bill that will regulate public transportation. The meeting was held behind closed doors at the Legislative Assembly with representatives from various political parties and nationwide transportation unions participating. At the end of the meeting, the Legislative Assembly president said an agreement had been reached. The political parties arrived at an apparent consensus, and the draft bill will continue to be debated by the full house. Here is what Deputy Guillermo Cochez and transportation sector representative Luzmila Angulo had to say:

[Begin recording] [Cochez] We have cleared up many doubts, and we hope we have reached an agreement on basic concepts with both sides yielding in their original positions, thus safeguarding our Constitution and addressing the issues that the nation requires in a transportation law....

[Angulo] We are only waiting for the Legislative Assembly to accept the agreements reached during the talks to finally resolve the matter. We, the transportation sector, would then feel that the agreements reached today were followed through. [end recording]

Nevertheless, the transportation sector workers continue to be on alert. It is now expected that the transportation draft bill will be approved during the second debate this week so next week it can receive final approval. The transportation draft bill has been under debate for three years.

## PRD 'Vehemently Deplores' Violent Acts at Legislative Assembly

*PA0505222093 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 5 May 93 p-17*

[Statement issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Party, PRD, National Executive Committee in Panama City on 26 April]

[Text] The Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] vehemently deplores the acts of violence carried out at the Legislative Assembly in recent days.

The PRD does not, and will never, agree with ironing out political differences through violence. Omar Torrijos, our party's founder, always viewed the party as an instrument of dialogue and political discussion. The Armed Forces were always the armed branch of the revolutionary process.

Violence as a method of political struggle never prevailed within our party. The most tangible proof of this is that when the Fatherland was on the verge of an armed confrontation, under the pressure of the colossus of the North, the then Defense Forces militarized a group of civilians, the Dignity Battalions, and not the PRD as such.

We are and will be respectful of the ideas of others. We are willing to settle our political differences on the traditional democratic battlefield: at the polls. But we do want to establish that, if pushed to a violent confrontation, we will defend ourselves with every means available to us.

Today, we regret the death of Mrs. Josefina de Torres, a humble citizen who, although not a PRD member, agreed with our message of national reconciliation through an amnesty, in view of the lack of justice and the government's inability to administer true national justice.

Mrs. Torres' example is what makes our party grow. She is an example of faith in a better future for our children, a faith and hope that fill the heart of each humble Panamanian.

As Panamanians and PRD members, we deeply lament Mrs. Torres' death; extend our sincere condolences to her family; and, at the same time, promise that her sacrifice will not be in vain. Her example will build a better Panama.

[Signed] PRD National Executive Committee

Ernesto Perez Balladares, secretary general

## Argentina

### Air Force Commemorates 'Baptism by Fire' in Falklands

*PY0405225593 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1558 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 May (TELAM)—Commemorating the 11th anniversary of the Baptism by Fire of the Air Force in the Malvinas Islands, Air Force Chief of Staff Brigadier Jose Julia said that "no obstacle will be strong enough to defeat our aspiration to create the Air Force that the country needs and deserves."

During the ceremony, at 10 de Agosto Square outside the Condor building which is the Air Force headquarters, Julia emphasized that the branch "continues to restructure itself, introducing the organic and functional modifications that began 10 years ago."

President Carlos Menem, who presided over the ceremony, was welcomed by Defense Minister Oscar Camilion, by Brig. Julia, and by Commodore Jorge Alberto Goyaga, chief of the "Baptism by Fire" unit. The authorities reviewed the troops, sang the national anthem, and prayed for those who fell in the Malvinas.

After the speech by Julia, a list of military men who died in combat was read, followed by one minute of silence. The ceremony ended with a parade.

The Air Force joined the war on 1 May 1982, when the performance of the Air Force was praised even by the British.

After emphasizing that the branch is striving for "equipment to suit our actual needs and possibilities and to strengthen national airspace power, yet emphasizing the relation between cost and benefits," Julia said: "We are promoting personnel specialization."

He added: "Everyone is to some extent responsible for the future, which is being built despite the obstacles. Problems should not discourage us and make us lower our arms. Instead, they should temper and strengthen our spirit in order to defeat them."

He said: "We are aware that we are in difficult times, which call for full and total sincerity from all areas involved. Solutions do not appear spontaneously or by chance."

"Just like on that 1 May, when the overwhelming superiority of the enemy could not defeat our will to fight, today we can say that no obstacle is strong enough to defeat our aspiration for an Air Force that the country needs and deserves," he emphasized.

Julia added: "This austere and simple commemoration, which is in line with the current situation, does not diminish the homage that we should pay to those who, without asking for anything in return, gave everything, teaching us a lesson of deference, courage, strength, dignity, and humility."

He told the relatives of the Malvinas War dead, that "they will be recalled for ever because of what they were, because of what they did, and because of the cause for which they died."

He finally emphasized: "Today as ever, the Argentine Air Force is aware of the responsibilities and duties imposed by the law and by military regulations, and is convinced that with proper resources and with the devotion to service shown by its personnel, national sovereignty and territorial integrity will be guaranteed."

### Defense Minister Justifies Chilean Flights to Falklands

*PY0505015593 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2020 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] Defense Minister Oscar Camilion today justified the authorization of a Chilean airline to schedule flights to the Malvinas Islands, with stopovers in Argentine territory. He said that this decision is part of the strategy to recover the southern archipelagoes.

Camilion said that this official decision "is not detrimental to national interests." He pointed out that, on the contrary, "it must be viewed within the context of the global negotiations with the United Kingdom on the recovery of the Malvinas Islands, which is an irrevocable long-term goal toward which many unfailing steps must be made."

The defense minister thus commented on a presidential decree authorizing the Chilean company "DPA Airlines, Ltd." ["Aerovias DPA Limitada"] to link Punta Arenas (Chile) with the capital of the Malvinas Islands, with stopovers in the Argentine airports of Rio Grande (Tierra del Fuego Province) and Rio Gallegos (Santa Cruz Province).

This authorization means that, for the first time since the 1982 UK-Argentine war, flights from Argentina will be arriving in the Malvinas Islands.

Camilion made this remark following a ceremony at noon today in which the Air Force marked its "Baptism by Fire" that occurred during the Malvinas war on 1 May 1982.

Brigadier General Jose Julia, the Air Force chief of staff, did not want to voice an opinion on this issue. He just limited himself to respond: "It is a political decision outside the jurisdiction of the Armed Forces."

In Camilion's opinion, these civilian flights seek to "move toward the establishment of contacts with the archipelago's inhabitants," who are called "Kelpers."

Asked if the Argentine decision could prompt some "reciprocity" by the United Kingdom, the minister said:

"Reciprocity must be gauged in terms of the entire policy on the Malvinas Islands." He added: "We must have patience and unfailingly and tenaciously go all the way."

Camilion remembered that these flights were already being carried out and that "a connection between Punta Arenas (Chile) and the Malvinas Islands is nothing new."

The stopovers in Argentine territory represent a novelty. The defense minister stated that these stopovers "are not detrimental to our country's interests, they represent a go-between to favor contacts."

When a journalist told the minister that "we Argentines would be interested in the opposite, that is, us going to the Malvinas Islands," Camilion responded: "We must assess this problem intelligently... What really matters in diplomacy is the establishment of contacts. Negotiations that are never attempted are never successful."

Camilion then admitted that the Kelpers are resisting contacts or negotiations with Argentina. Nevertheless, he emphasized: "We must continue because it is not just a matter of talking to the Kelpers, it is also discussing the issue broadly with the United Kingdom."

Camilion made it clear that he was talking about "an area that is not of my concern" because the negotiations with the United Kingdom are being conducted by the Foreign Ministry, but described the issue of the flights to the Malvinas Islands as "a very clear matter."

Concerning the detail that it actually is a Chilean airline that will fly to the Malvinas Islands after a stopover in Argentine territory, the minister said: "From a defense viewpoint, this does not have any special significance." He recalled that the airline already has authorization to fly over Argentine territory.

## Chilean War Planes Overfly Southern Territory

*PY0505185093 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1625 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 May (EFE)—Argentine Air Force sources told the press on 5 May that several Chilean military airplanes overflew Argentina's southern territory on two occasions last week. There were no incidents.

Local radar systems identified the Chilean planes as Mirage-5 fighter-bombers. The overflights were observed by the inhabitants of the Argentina's Santa Cruz Province, 2,500 km south of Buenos Aires.

The sources indicated that the Chilean military planes' overflights occurred on 28 and 30 April.

Diplomatic sources indicated that the incident prompted consultations between the Argentine and Chilean Foreign Ministries, which have used this type of mechanism since the two countries implemented a policy of rapprochement.

Argentine and Chilean authorities, who are implementing a bilateral economic integration program, prefer to keep this type of incident under wraps to prevent reactions from the nationalist groups in the two countries, the sources indicated.

Bad weather is one of the factors that causes two countries' military planes to enter foreign airspace when they are on training or routine flights, the sources explained.

The flights of Argentine and Chilean military planes over neighboring territory were very frequent toward the end of the 1970's, when the two countries were a step away from war due to the Beagle Channel conflict.

Argentina and Chile put an end to the conflict of the Beagle Channel, located at America's extreme southern tip, in 1984, when the parties accepted the arbitration decision handed down by Pope John Paul II.

## Economy Ministry Highlights 1992 Achievements

*PY0405215093 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 2 May 93 Economic Section p 1*

[Text] According to a report submitted yesterday by the Economy Ministry to the national Congress, a drastic reduction in the inflation rate, a record fiscal surplus, and an important increase in the Gross Domestic Product, GDP, were the main achievements of the economic policy implemented in 1992.

The document states that the joint retail-wholesale prices index last year increased 10 percent, thus consolidating the convergence of the national inflation rate and the international inflation rate

The GDP, based on market prices, increased by 9 percent as a result of fixed gross investments estimated at 35 percent.

The primary fiscal surplus (without computing revenues earned from privatizations) reached a record level; equivalent to 3.4 points of the GDP. This allowed an increase of approximately $3.7 billion in the net international reserves.

The new Convertibility Plan prompted urban employment to increase by 5 percent between 1990 and 1992 according to official figures.

Industrial salary purchasing power last year was 8.7 percent up on the average level recorded in 1991.

The report adds that consolidated social public expenditures stood at an unprecedented level in 1992, "surpassed only by the previsions made in this year's budget."

According to estimates of the economic team, the entry of private capital reached $7.8 billion in 1992.

The Economy Ministry report also says that the fulfillment of fiscal goals, the development of the main macroeconomic variables, and the high level of commitment with the continuation of the course outlined, allowed the country's entry into the Brady Plan which provides for

the reduction and reprogramming of the foreign debt with commercial banks and the recovery of international confidence.

A highlighted chapter in the balance of the economic policy implemented in 1992 includes the privatizations which have given a decisive impulse.

The report states that during the year substantial growth was experienced through the privatization of companies from the electricity, gas, petroleum, railways, health services, grain elevators, highways, and financial sectors.

According to official records, as a result of this process some $5.463 billion cash were added to the Treasury. The public debt was also reduced considerably through the payment of $6.784 billion for foreign debt titles and $2.630 billion in cash for titles of the foreign and internal debt. Moreover, the government transferred to the purchasers several debts of the purchased companies, totaling $1.576 billion.

Among the measures that contributed to integration with the three other members of the Mercosur [Common Market of the South], the Economy Ministry report cites, among others, the following:

- A timetable of the Las Lenas measures which approves the measures to be adopted before 31 December 1994 and the appropriate deadlines.
- The Brasilia protocol to solve controversies, which will soon become effective.
- A policy on administrative procedures and sanctions for cases of forged certificates of origin.
- A framework to implement sectorial complementation agreements.
- A definition of ideas for the establishment of the common foreign tariff.
- Facilities for customs, migration, and other border transactions to guarantee a greater flow of traffic.
- Deregulation measures for international transport, resulting in a drop of 20 percent in freight costs.

The Economy Ministry also stated that the deregulation of land transport has prompted a rapid proliferation of new services, especially inter-provincial systems. In the case of highways with heavy traffic, the increase in offer reached 90 percent and was accompanied by a reduction of tariffs, according to the official report.

Concerning deregulation, the effects on port activities were no less significant, according to the official report, because a reduction in stowage costs prompted a drop, oscillating between 8 and 20 percent, thanks to changes in labor laws.

An important point also took place in 1992 in relations between the Nation and the provinces; through the signing of an agreement by which the mutual debts were consolidated and long-lasting agreements were established concerning the distribution of funds. This must be added an agreement on petroleum royalties.

The report states that revenues and public provincial expenditures have both grown, but in different proportions. This prompted the reduction of state's financial needs to its lowest level since 1984: 0.3 percent of the GDP.

## Trade Union Movement Said Against Government's Plans To Reform Legislation

*PY0605014993 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 5 May 93 pp 1, 11*

[Text] (NA-DYN)—The entire trade union movement came out yesterday against the government's plans to reform Argentina's labour legislation, with groups ranging from the hardline 62 Peronist Organizations to the pro-government "ultra-Menemists" criticizing the initiative aired last weekend by President Carlos Menem and Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo.

Not least strident among the critics was the General Labour Confederation (CGT), whose leader Naldo Brunelli lambasted the reforms as "a direct attack on (labour) rights that have been universally acknowleged." The CGT today will set a date for its Central Confederal Committee meeting which is due to launch a nationwide battle plan against the Menem administration.

The government was quick to react to the outcry, however. Menem personally ruled out the possibility of stretching working hours from the current eight to 10 daily, a rumour which he said was deviously spread by "some media," while Cavallo and Labour Minister Enrique Rodriguez made clear that the opinions of union and business delegates would be sought and accounted for in the final version of the draft legislation.

Instead of working the current average of 2,400 hours per year, employees will spend only 1,950 hours on the job "with higher skills and better wages," said Menem, dismissing rumours of a 10-hour workday as "the worst blunder and lie I've heard in a long time."

"This new labour legislation, patterned after the world model and approved by the International Labour Organization, will allow us to keep growing," said Menem, speaking at a ceremony in which the port of Dock Sud was handed over to the Buenos Aires provincial jurisdiction. He also signed an intensive labour programme aimed at the creation of 8,000 new jobs in the province, to be financed by the National Employment Fund to the tune of 16.1 million pesos.

Earlier yesterday the so-called ultra-Menemist unions complained that the Labour Ministry had rushed through its employment proposals and had failed to consult union delegates. In an assembly yesterday, they further described the government proposal—intended to boost employment by easing work contracts and restricting job liability—as "sloppy."

The CGT asked the Senate Justicialist bloc to reject any government attempts to make the labour market more flexible, gaining the immediate endorsement of Senator Oraldo Britos.

62 Organizations leader Lorenzo Miguel, in turn, accused Menem of betraying Peronists with the labour reform plan. He added that if Menem continued along this path "I would not vote for him ever again."

"The government has let down its supporters. This decision is an insult to workers ... a total lack of respect," fumed Miguel.

Regarding Cavallo's intention to create one million new jobs in the last two of the Menem government, Miguel said "this is a pipe dream they would have to prove."

Unions leaders have charged that the new labour legislation would simply replace old workers with younger people and job contractors.

Challenging Labour Minister Rodriguez to explain the scope of the reform during the CGT's coming Central Confederal Committee meeting, Miguel did not rule out the possibility of launching a battle plan against the government including some form of massive strike.

Rodriguez, meanwhile, downplayed the labour criticism and said the government would bring political parties, unions and business groups to the bargaining table to hammer out a final draft of the proposed changes in legislation.

The minister further denied rumours that the government sought to extend daily working hours. On the contrary, workdays will drop to an average of seven hours daily, he said.

Rodriguez insisted that the main aim of the labour reforms was to generate new jobs and improve salaries through greater productivity. Regarding the impact of cutting overtime down to 150 hours per year, he said "we have to improve wages through productivity, not through the exploitation of workers."

Despite the tide of opposition against the plan, Rodriguez insisted that all sides involved could arrive at a compromise at a compromise: "I'm convinced that we can agree on an initiative of this type, like we did with the employment bill and like we've been able to move ahead with the pensions reform plan."

Cavallo also moved to defend the labour overhaul.

Labour legislation "must firstly allow for the greatest possible number of jobs throughout the country and offer the possibility of progressively better wages," he said, anticipating that the bill could be ready to be sent to Congress next week.

"Everybody has something to say. Some people are decidedly against the bill, and others like it, but the fact is that hardly anybody has read it yet," he explained.

"What we have now is a blueprint drafted by the Labour Ministry which is being screened by the Economy Ministry ... obviously employers and employees will be summoned to give their opinions," added Cavallo.

Critics of the proposed labour reform included Radical Senator Fernando de la Rua, who described it as "an unforgivable step in the wrong direction;" Socialist Deputy Luis Zamora, who considered it "the harshest blow since the coup of 1955;" and the APYME grouping of small and medium-sized businesses, which warned that their sector "will not improve with these reforms."

## 'Great Front' Makes Progress in Consolidating Alliance With PC

*PY0605032693 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 5 May 93 p 15*

[Article by Atilio Bleta]

[Text] Although the share of some candidacies still has to be be decided for the smaller parties, the Great Front [Frente Grande] has made progress in consolidating an alliance following an agreement with the Communist Party [PC], as a result of which they obtained the third candidacy for national deputy for Buenos Aires Province, and the third candidacy for council member in the capital.

PC leaders Maria Elena Nadeo, High School Teachers Union secretary general, will be the third candidate for council member while Floreal Gorini, APYME [Small and Middle Size Enterprises Association] representative, will be the third candidate for national deputy, both for the Great Front. The first candidate for national deputy is Carlos "Chacho" Alvarez, leader of the Fredejuso [Front for Democracy and Social Justice], while the second candidate is human rights activist Graciela Fernandez Meijide, leader of the Democratic and Popular Alternative [Alternativa Democratica y Popular].

The Great Front represents an alliance among the Southern Front [Frente Sur—FS], the Fredejuso, and the Popular Democracy Party. The FS, whose main leader is movie director Fernando Pino Solanas, in turn groups Southern Proposal [Propuesta Sur] (dissident Peronists), the PC, PH [Humanist Party], PI-Nacional [Intransigent Party—National], PV [Green Party], IP [People's Intransigence—Intransigencia Popular], PAF [Frontal Action Party], and others.

FS leader Solanas agreed with Carlos "Chacho" Alvarez, leader of the Fredejuso (made up of dissident Peronists, PI-Capital [Intransigent Party—Capital] and Popular Participation [Protagonismo Popular]) to create the Great Front both in the capital and in Buenos Aires Province.

Through this agreement "Chacho" Alvarez has been appointed first candidate for deputy in the capital, Eduardo Jozami (from Southern Proposal), has been appointed first candidate for council member, and Raul

Fernandez (from the PI-Capital) is second candidate for council member. Pino Solanas is first candidate for deputy in Buenos Aires, and Luis Brunati (from People's Encounter) is second candidate for deputy in Buenos Aires.

Given that the PC wanted the first candidate position for council member in the capital, and that the left had fewer representatives than the dissident Peronists, a certain discomfort was generated and the PC and the PV, IP, PH, and IDEPO [People's Democratic Left] threatened to break up the alliance and present an alternative list in open internal elections.

However, the Great Front of the capital managed to obtain the support of the Democratic and Popular Alternative when its leader Graciela Fernandez Meijide accepted on 29 April to become second candidate for national deputy.

However, Eduardo Jozami, from Southern Proposal, Luis Brunati for People's Encounter, and PC leaders Alejandro Mosquera and Oscar Laborde met on 1 May in Cine Sur, the office of Pino Solanas on Cordoba Avenue, and after a long discussion they reached an overall agreement that includes the capital and Buenos Aires Province.

Vanguard and Popular Democracy also joined this agreement, placing Jorge Makarz as fifth candidate for council member and PH leader Liliana Ambrosio as sixth candidate for council member. Meanwhile, the historic Peronist faction of the PAF continues demanding open internal elections and the creation of an electoral board.

During the meeting that took place on 1 May, the PC obtained third place in the list of deputies for Buenos Aires Province (after Solanas and Brunati). The Great Front must still negotiate with the Broad Front (made up of dissident Peronists, democratic socialists, and intransigent party sympathizers) once Juan Pablo Cafiero returns from Italy.

## Brazil

### Finance Minister Gives Speech on Government Program

*PY0505190593 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2253 GMT 4 May 93*

[Speech by Finance and Economy Minister Eliseu Resende over radio and television network; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] Good evening. President Itamar Franco has asked me to tell the Brazilian people about the negotiations I held with the international creditors on his behalf and to clearly explain his government program, which has been recently announced.

The conditions in which President Franco received the country are well known. Total chaos reigned throughout the public administration, inflation was extremely high and unmanageable and the brutally and inhumanely tough recession had lasted longer than was deemed admissible or tolerable. To summarize, the cost of living was extremely high and unemployment was knocking at the doors of millions of Brazilian homes. The situation was made worse by the hunger, affliction, and absolute misery of more than 30 million of our fellow countrymen.

And all the time a policy of excessively high interest rates continued. These were sponsored by the federal government under the pretext that high interest rate would limit consumption and force inflation down. A cruelly recessive process, which can only be accepted as a short-term surgical solution and never as a policy to be permanently employed, also continued in force. More than a decade passed and interest rates continued to rise while inflation rates did not decrease as announced. As a result, all we had was financial speculation and the voracity of easy profits. Some became rich while the entire Brazilian people became painfully poorer.

Showing the coherence of his administration, right from his first speech, President Itamar Franco pointed out that Brazil must produce more. He added that production is incompatible with a policy of permanently and ferociously high interest rates. It is of little use to establish whether inflation fuels the financial carousel, the financial carousel that fuels inflation, or whether they both fuel each other. The truth is that the country was and still is entirely distrustful of economic tricks that ultimately sought impossible goals like filling warehouses without manufacturing or feeding people without producing any food.

In spite of all this, and with memories of categorical failures in the recent or remote past, some advised the president to adopt drastic measures. These suggestions included freezing prices and salaries, confiscating financial assets including savings pass books, breaking signed contracts, dollarizing the economy, and even nationalizing private banks.

Although worried and impatient about the difficulties being experienced by a large portion of the Brazilian people, President Itamar Franco was not seduced by these suggestions. He remained firmly loyal to his democratic and social commitments. His Excellency clearly knows that the current situation can continue no longer. He also knows, however, that there can be no miracles in economics. As I have already said, the government plan has avoided the spectacular shocks that became part of the daily lives of Brazilians. That was part of the lives of workers, housewives, have-nots, and the middle-class.

The success of his plan depends on its management, on a firm implementation of all of its terms. And the president of the Republic entrusted me with this duty. The success of his plan particularly depends on the will,

support, and solidarity of the people in general. It depends on the support of the national Congress, the judicial branch, state and county officials, workers, students, the press, and of all who are a part of our suffering society. No doctor can cure someone who is not willing to be healed. The government program must become a national program for the economic and social recovery of the Brazilian people.

Through responsible and creative plans and actions, we must soon find ways to reconcile efforts to stabilize the economy, reduce inflation, recover the economy, increase production, and immediately solve the country's most serious social problems, such as those of the health area and unemployment. We must solve the Brazilian people's hunger and misery.

The government effectively began work on 29 December 1992, when the transition period ended. Planning Minister Yeda Crusius composed the budget structure just last month. The government had no budget until April.

The first step in this program must be taken by the federal government, which must be seen to exert self discipline. Like any common citizen, family, or company that faces economic difficulties, the government must use self discipline to refrain from spending more than what it collects. This is what we call fiscal adjustment or fiscal policy. The government will try to collect the maximum revenues allowed by law, combating tax evaders and the privileged sectors of society that avoid paying taxes.

The government will also concentrate on solving the most critical and urgent problems of the population, which are fair salaries, the needs of retired workers, and social assistance in the fields of education, school food programs, and health.

This effort will render us a surplus which we technically call a primary surplus in the fiscal accounts. This primary surplus should be enough to pay the interest on internal and foreign debts contracted in the past. They will be paid without issuing money but by issuing new public debt notes, thus preventing further inflation.

However, paying the interest on the government debt is not enough. We must change the profile and volume of this debt so that it becomes increasingly smaller and cheaper and requires less resources which will then be available for social programs.

For this reason we will promote a firm privatization program to generate resources that will be used to reduce the government financial debt which is currently very expensive and is contracted over very short repayment terms.

This privatization program will not harm either state companies or their employees since they will gain greater autonomy and making them more efficient will contribute to our national development.

We must also mention the progress we attained in solving the foreign debt problems. Our debt negotiations with the international creditor banks within the terms of the basic agreement that was approved by the Senate are in their final stage. Given the progress during our recent trip to Washington and our contacts with the IMF and the international development companies, we hope to soon sign a final agreement with the creditor banks to consolidate all our debts into one single debt that will be repaid by 2023 at an interest rate nearly half of that charged on the international market.

President Itamar Franco wants the economic stabilization program to be accompanied by efforts to boost the economy. Within the fiscal adjustment framework, we must encourage the private sector to undertake productive activities in agriculture and in sectors with the greatest possibility of creating jobs, like civil construction, especially the construction of houses, the installation of potable water, sewerage, and roads.

The farm promotion program is based on the understanding that Brazil has a great rural vocation with one of the last agricultural capabilities on the planet. Despite this, as everyone knows, our agricultural activity has been somewhat neglected in the past few years.

In the Itamar Franco administration, agriculture will play a strategic and basic role in the resumption of development, given its multiplying effect on the rest of the economy, increasing the employment rate in rural areas, reducing the migration flow into the cities, and increasing the supply of food. Rural credit lines from the Bank of Brazil, constitutional funds, Rural Finame [Fund for Financing Machinery and Equipment], and private sector loans will be used to support farmers.

The priority given to the housing program stems from the need to create jobs, to supply housing for low income families that earn less than three minimum salaries, for middle-low income families that earn from three to eight minimum salaries, and for the middle class that earns more than eight minimum salaries.

The government will allot a total of $590 million—which will be raised through a tax on oil imports and World Bank financing—to a road recovery program to recover 6,000 km of roads. This program will be extended to other fiscal years.

Public companies must implement their own fiscal adjustment so as to generate enough cash to meet their financial commitments and to carry out a rational investment program in the fields of electricity, gas and oil production, telecommunications, and mining.

Once the fiscal reform is implemented, the resulting resources must be allocated to solve the most serious social problems and to combat hunger and misery in Brazil. At this time, 20 percent of the population is dramatically affected by this problem, which represents

a social challenge of ethical and moral connotations that must be solved by the government and the entire society through strong measures.

All effort by the federal government must be accompanied by a strong political will and the thorough and full support of all strata of society, particularly the financial system, banks, entrepreneurs, industrialists, and producers. The government implements adjustments, makes sacrifices, and tries to reduce the cost imposed on the productive area by reducing interest rates. But these efforts must also be supported by those who establish prices. The government cannot alone reduce inflation. It must take the first step and set the example. It must establish the essential conditions to reduce inflation. But Brazil requires the cooperation of entrepreneurs, industrialists, and consumers.

We have already received an answer from the national financial system, but we also want commerce and industries, stores, and supermarkets to cooperate by reducing the price of their products.

The Itamar Franco Administration does not address neglectful, indifferent people. It does not address those who have lost faith, although it realizes they had reasons to be discouraged in the past.

Currently, however, the situation is quite different. Brazil has resumed the path that leads to its historic destiny of grandeur and social justice. The government now speaks a pragmatic, dynamic, everyday language in the streets and fields. It knows that—depending on its actions and the participation of all— with God's help, we will be able to see soon the results of the rich and generous soil of the Brazilian fatherland. Thank you very much.

## Government Officials Meet With Supermarket Representatives

*PY0605003293 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 May 93 p 23*

[Text] Brasilia—Government officials met yesterday with supermarket representatives and achieved two objectives: the support of supermarket owners in beating inflation, and they warned supermarket suppliers that they will use foreign exchange reserves to import consumer goods and force supermarkets to lower prices.

Before attending the meeting with Finance Minister Eliseu Resende and the supermarket representatives, Jose Eduardo de Andrade Vieira, the industry, commerce, and tourism minister, stated that "we have enough trade surplus to preclude possible shortages."

Andrade Vieira added that the government would urge supermarkets not to buy supplies at prices that run higher that the inflation rate. The government will earnestly ask retailers to refrain from putting surcharges on hire-purchase agreements, especially those that mature in 30 to 60 days.

The government will also ask retailers not to accept post-dated checks. Andrade Vieira says that this practice fuels inflation. Experts from the Finance and Industry, Commerce, and Tourism Ministries are suspending all forms of hire-purchase that will increase inflationary expectations.

## Southern Separatist Movement Leaders Identified

*PY0505223893 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 May 93 p 5*

[Text] Brasilia—The Federal Police [PF] have the names of the leaders of the southern separatist movement. A preliminary investigation report by the PF Intelligence Center includes the names of 14 individuals, including Parana State Deputy Caito Quintana. The main leader of this movement is Irton Marx, a Rio Grande do Sul researcher who lives in Santa Cruz do Sul and who wrote the book "Southern Pampas Region Republic."

The report states that Marx ran as candidate for mayor and councilman in his city but he never won an election. He sent letters to the southern city councils proposing a plebiscite among the councilmen. If the separation were approved by the majority of the city councils, the independence of the new country could be proclaimed in a separatist congress scheduled for 22 and 23 May in Santa Cruz do Sul.

The first regional separatist meeting took place in Santa Cruz do Sul in May 1992. It allowed the PF to identify the main leaders of this movement. Beside Irton Marx, the report mentions Oscar Pacheco dos Santos—identified as the main leader in a meeting held in Sao Jose dos Pinhais, Parana—Adilson Cadorim, Joao Fernando Mainardi, Rudi Brust, Gerson Zimpel Petry, Paulo Ivan da Costa, Getulio Luiz dos Santos, and Darci Vieira. No further references to these names are given in the report.

The report also mentions Sergio Alves de Oliveira and Antonio Carlos Estrella, founders of the Republica Farroupilha Party [after the Farroupilha Revolt, a 10-year civil war in Rio Grande do Sul between 1835-1845] whose registration in 1990 was not authorized by the Porto Alegre Regional Electoral Court. Luiz Basso is also mentioned for having published last year in the TRIBUNA DE APUCARANA newspaper of Parana an article defending the separation of southern Brazil from the rest of the country. Caito Quintana is the only professional politician mentioned in the PF report. During a meeting last year in Sao Jose dos Pinhais, Quintana promised to promote the movement in the interior of Parana State.

The PF report states that the movement gained international notoriety after an interview given in January last year by Zeno Jose Otto to the U.S. CNN television network.

## Colombia

### Senate Approves Request To Extend 'State of Internal Disturbance'

*PA0605022393 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2355 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 5 May (EFE)—The Colombian Senate on 5 May approved a request by President Cesar Gaviria's government to extend the "state of internal disturbance" declared in November 1992 for 90 more days. The extension, according to the government, is a means of restoring normalcy to the country. The decision to extend the state of disturbance for another 90 days was approved by the Colombian Congress following two hours of debates. Although liberals and conservatives voted affirmatively, they also expressed reservations over the measure's effectiveness. Senator Bernardo Gutierrez of the former guerrilla 19 April Movement Democratic Alliance, the only political party that opposed the extension, said that "the state of internal disturbance has not resolved public order problems." Colombia's 1991 Constitution abolished the "state of emergency" and adopted the "state of internal disturbance." Under the latter, the government, as it has done since November, can deal with guerrilla groups, the drug mafia, or common criminals with special measures or decrees. Since November the executive has included, among other repressive measures, home searches without previously issued judicial orders, payment of rewards to individuals who report on rebel leaders, and reduced sentences for those who cooperate with the law.

### Foreign Minister Comments on European Trip

*PA0505230293 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 May 93*

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister Nohemi Sanin by Dario Arizmendi in Santa Fe de Bogota—live]

[Excerpt] [Arismendi] The big news is that Foreign Minister Nohemi Sanin is in Colombia, a rare event indeed. Good morning.
[Sanin] I am the foreign minister, Dario.

[Arizmendi] Will we have you here for a few days?
[Sanin] Yes. I am going to stay. I will be visiting the borders, going to the archipelago, answering a summons by the Congress, and continuing to work on all topics of interest.

[Arizmendi] Much has been reported about your trip to Europe. News agencies gave coverage to your different meetings, your statements, and the impression you left. What nobody knows is that you met with former British prime minister Margaret Thatcher. How was that meeting?

[Sanin] It was very interesting. We were scheduled to meet for 30 minutes, but the meeting lasted over two hours. We discussed the international agenda. I had the chance to talk to her at length about Colombia. She knows our country well and admires the struggle Colombia is waging against drug trafficking. She knows about our economic situation. She had many, many, questions about Colombia. I had the opportunity to convey a message from President Cesar Gaviria Trujillo. She is interested in coming to Colombia, but she is finishing a book of her memoirs. Mrs. Thatcher will probably come to our country some time in the future.

[Arizmendi] How has the German Government, if it has already, reacted to the Foreign Ministry communique on four Colombian officers who were not able to travel to Germany to attend a scheduled course?
[Sanin] As I told the German foreign minister, we are sending him a note stating our opinion regarding the book and our unhappiness that a book that was written with unacceptable methods should be the reason that four members of our public security forces cannot accept an invitation to visit Germany.

[Arizmendi] What would you describe as the highlight of the agreement signed between the EC and Andean Pact countries?
[Sanin] This is the first agreement signed between the EC and the entire Andean Pact, and it is a third generation agreement [as heard]. This means its scope is the broadest ever. We basically agreed to cooperate in all economic sectors, and in the scientific, research, and education sectors. It would be worthwhile for industrialists and workers to study the agreement to see the opportunities that stem from it, utilize them, and not let it become a dead letter. I wish they would take advantage of it. It would be worthwhile for the news media to look at it to learn what it consists of. It is very broad and important.

[Arizmendi] What can you say about your theory regarding the new wall? It caused a sensation among the political circles you addressed in Germany.
[Sanin] In Germany, I had the opportunity to meet with the president of the parliament and many other persons. We talked about the new wall of shame that is being erected, namely protectionism. All our economies have been restructured based on free trade. We have made numerous reforms, and Colombia's businessmen and government are prepared to export. We find, however, that blocs, or the EC, issue measures to prevent the sales of our products in their regions. They create tariffs, quotas, licensing requirements that are totally unjustified. All of this falls outside the GATT. That is why we said that wall is as shameful as the Berlin Wall, since it can hamper our development and undermine the development and consolidation of democracy taking place all over Latin America. Development and democracy are intimately linked. [passage omitted]

### New 'Joint' ADM-19 Presidency Outlines Party Goals

*PA0505141393 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 3 May 93*

[Report by Guillermo Gonzalez]

[Text] The 19 April Movement Democratic Alliance announced on 3 May that it will become a true opposition alternative. The alliance's new joint [colegiada] presidency said that it is essential that Congress approve a law to regulate the opposition statute. According to its members, the basic purpose of the party is to convert the alliance into a true symbol of change.

[Begin ADM-19 Senator Pedro Bonnet recording, in progress] ...behave toward Colombian democracy, that even though it distinguishes us from traditional parties, it is also true that it must distinguish us from parties that maintain a military-political stance. [end recording]

That is why ADM-19 leaders will call for a great summit—with all political parties participating—to debate great national topics. The ADM-19 leadership gave assurances that the political phenomena the alliance is undergoing will give new life to the party and will place it at the forefront of the country's needs.

According to the new ADM-19 leadership, the crisis has been overcome, at least for the time being. According to its members, the true concern is to consolidate, from the political point of view, a new change alternative.

### Arrest Warrant Issued for Escobar for 'Terrorist' Attack

*PA0605035793 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Again the Prosecutor General's Office has issued an arrest warrant for Pablo Escobar. This time it is in connection with the terrorist attack to the Centro 93 Mall in Santa Fe de Bogota. The warrant also includes Alfonso Leon Puerta, alias El Angelito.

The Congress is currently questioning the government for the treatment afforded to victims of terrorism.

## Paraguay

### Proposal Urges Executive Branch To Return Credentials of U.S. Envoy

*PY0505124893 Lambare Paraguay Radio Cardinal in Spanish 1000 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] A proposal has been submitted in the Chamber of Deputies urging the Executive Branch to return credentials to U.S. Ambassador Jon Glassman. Ruling party Deputy Sandino Gill Oporto is the proposal's sponsor. He said Glassman has repeatedly meddled in our country's domestic affairs.

[Begin recording] [Gill Oporto, in progress] ...urging the Executive Branch. But I know that this will have the same fate as that submitted to the courts. It is absolutely absurd [as heard] that the president of the Republic, who should defend our sovereignty, as we say here, will return or will hand over the credentials to Glassman. But this is a way of expressing our position, of conveying our displeasure.

[Reporter] What does the proposal say?
[Gill Oporto] Well, I will read only the part on the resolution. It states: The Executive Branch must adopt a firm position against the repeated meddlings of Ambassador Jon Glassman in the country's domestic affairs, and, consequently, return his credentials to him so that he will be called back by his government. To send copies of this statement to the honorable House of Representatives of the United States of America.

[Reporter] Will you try to have this matter discussed in the next Chamber of Deputies session?
[Gill Oporto] Exactly. That is true.

[Reporter] This week?
[Gill Oporto] No, not necessarily. It can be after the elections. This has nothing to do with elections. [end recording]

### Candidate Laino Defends U.S. Envoy

*PY0505162993 Asuncion Cerro Cora Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 May 93*

[Interview with Authentic Radical Liberal Party presidential candidate Domingo Laino by journalists Pepa Kostianovsky and Jose Antonio Bianchi on the "In Detail" program—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Kostianovsky] I wanted to ask you about the U.S. Ambassador Jon Glassman issue. Did you hear Deputy Sandino Gill Oporto talk about him?
[Laino] Yes, I did. And some others already have asked me the same question, because rumors are heard there [in the United States] that the U.S. ambassador is constantly meddling in domestic affairs, that he speaks, that he makes statements, etc. And this complaint is not conveyed by Gill Oporto alone; there are other ruling party deputies who also are complaining. I think this is a matter that can be explained, because the principle of nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other countries is changing with the democratic development in countries throughout the world. This is a subject that also involves other principles, such as the self-determination of peoples; that is, we cannot talk about nonintervention in domestic affairs of other states and disregard the self-determination of nations, because the self-determination of nations means democracy, and only within the framework of democracy can respect for human rights be guaranteed. And Paraguay has signed pacts, such as those of San Jose, Costa Rica, on human rights; that is, the human rights issue has no borders and, consequently, democracy has no borders either. Thus, I think this matter depends to a great extent on the orientation given when pressure is imposed from outside

on a given country. In this case, what is Glassman's intervention good for? It is good to guarantee the democratic process, to guarantee the 9 May elections in accordance with the national Constitution, that is, respecting the national Constitution.

Moreover, his pressure consists of guaranteeing clean elections, regular elections, let us say, with the observation or control of all sectors so that no electoral fraud is committed, taking into account the fraudulent vices of our electoral system. You must remember that state assets are regularly used in all elections, and that there is pressure from above; there is the problem of the voters' list, etc; that is, he wants the people's will to be respected to reflect this in the elections. This is democracy.

[Kostianovsky] What is wrong with that pressure, Laino? What results can it yield?

[Bianchi, interrupting] What effects can it have?

[Laino] Well, I think Glassman's intervention was important, because we have experienced difficult times here. In December, for instance, after the Colorado Party internal elections there was talk of a coup attempt, rumors that the decision already had been made, that it would take place by the end of the year. You must remember how people ran to supermarkets to buy provisions because in fact there was a strong coupist environment, and I think on that occasion the resolute intervention for democracy helped calm the storm. Then there were other attempts to postpone the May elections. There were requests to suspend the elections because they were not in keeping with the laws, etc. You probably remember that. Yesterday—that is, today—the court decided to reject the request for suspension.

[Kostianovsky, Bianchi] It was yesterday. Yesterday the court decided that the elections will be held.

[Laino] Obviously we have ups and downs, there were doubts, and the people were apprehensive. And obviously, within that context of uncertainty, of insecurity, doubts, etc., an important force has emerged. I am referring to the United States, which I think is an essential element, and not only in Latin America, but throughout the world. Last year when I was traveling through Europe the Mercosur [Common Market of the South] was having problems because of the U.S. policy to suspend the purchase of steel from the Common Market because it was going to prompt a crisis, not for one European country but for the entire EC. This means that the United States is still an influential country, particularly now that the East-West confrontation has ended. It is a leading country not only for Latin America and Europe but for the whole world.

As I understand it, the issue of nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other countries must be linked to the self-determination issue. And in this context, I think Glassman's attitude is fully justified, and not only Glassman's, but the action of any other spokesman of a country with some power in the world to accompany us in consolidating democracy in Paraguay. [passage omitted]

## Colorado Party Ends Electoral Campaign With Mass Rally

*PY0505224493 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 5 May 93 pp 4, 5*

[Text] The Colorado Party [National Republican Association—ANR] ended its campaign in support of its candidates for the 9 May elections with a mass rally. The entire government leadership, headed by President Andres Rodriguez himself and his ministers, participated in the event. The orators urged all Colorado Party supporters to forget the internal disputes and vote for the ANR on Sunday, 9 May. Colorado presidential hopeful Juan Carlos Wasmosy promised to solve the country's most serious problems, such as unemployment, education, health care, land, and housing.

A huge mobilization of transport to bring supporters from various points of the country, a colorful parade of the so-called "republican cavalry" along downtown streets, performances by several musical groups, and a display of fireworks last night marked the end of the ANR campaign in support of its electoral candidates. The rally took place in the squares next to the Congress building, which have lately become a favorite place for massive rallies organized by political groups.

After a threat of rain had disappeared and President Rodriguez had arrived, the speakers started addressing the crowd. In their speeches, they noted the unity achieved by the Colorados, which would assure the ANR's victory on Sunday. ANR President Blas N. Riquelme referred to the unity of his fellow partisans, and said that the hallucinations of those who fabricate alleged polls and the champions of the anti-Colorado campaign have failed to dampen the spirit of ANR members.

Angel Roberto Seifart, candidate for the vice presidency, urged ANR supporters not to betray on 9 May the memory of the Colorado Party heroes of the revolutions of 1947 and 2-3 February 1989.

Seifart also thanked the Armed Forces' "soldiers of democracy" who on 2-3 February, headed by Rodriguez, triggered the process for political change which had originated within the ANR.

Seifart criticized the opposition for having denied the soldiers of democracy the right to express their opinion "when this right is established by the national Constitution itself."

Lastly, presidential hopeful Juan Carlos Wasmosy read a lengthy speech in which he promised to solve the greatest problems our country is currently enduring, such as the economic crisis, the lack of land, housing, education, and health. He said that for his government the struggle

against illiteracy would become an obsession, and that the campesinos would become professional agriculturalists.

As in the latest partisan rallies, the speakers insistently urged the crowd to vote for the party. The ANR leadership is aware of some Colorado sectors' opposition to the Wasmosy-Seifart ticket and to other candidates, such as those for governor of some departments, due to the internal conflicts; throughout the electoral campaign they have made appeals for a vote along party lines, to avoid a fall from power in Sunday's elections.

The organizers said there were more than 200,000 people at the closing rally. In his speech Riquelme even said that there were 300,000 people present, which shows that the figure had been previously set. According to the ABC COLOR reporter's calculations, the Colorado rally gathered fewer people than the rally organized last Friday, 30 March, by the Authentic Radical Liberal Party. Moreover, it was stated that the rally organized by Luis Maria Argana's supporters a few months ago, at the same site, had managed to gather a larger crowd than that which gathered last night. One ANR member said that the meeting had been organized at the last minute, which could be why more people did not participate.

According to ANR campaign leader Atilio R. Fernandez, the rally was going to cost approximately 450 million guaranies. This amount seems to have been largely justified last night by the great deployment of transport, the setting, and the fireworks.

During the mass rally to close the ANR electoral campaign in front of Congress last night, presidential hopeful Juan Carlos Wasmosy said: "We are going to respect the text and the spirit of the national Constitution in order that justice, well-being, and freedom might become the inalienable assets of our people—in particular, of each and every one of our citizens."

Wasmosy said that with his promise to respect the Constitution of the Republic he aspires to the confidence of all Paraguayan citizens and ANR supporters.

Wasmosy briefly outlined the government program he will implement if elected president of Paraguay. In this sense, he said that our country is very wealthy, and that he will show everyone that this wealth can be exploited.

The ANR presidential hopeful said: "We will promptly and efficiently respond to the aspirations of all Paraguayan youths. Every Paraguayan will have full access to education, we will eradicate illiteracy, and we will train them to work."

He also noted that his government will enable hundreds of private investment projects to guarantee the establishiment of factories in each town of the Republic, so that each region, each department, might have its own source of job opportunities.

Wasmosy noted: "During the last decade of the 20th century the most advanced ideas uphold a state capable of governing without abusing, of heading without replacing, of fulfilling promises without deceiving the people. Electoral ticket No. 1 [ANR] will encourage organized participation and will create new social grassroots."

Wasmosy promised an executive branch that will head the common efforts by all Paraguayans to work united in favor of the grandeur and well-being of all Paraguayans.

In the political field, Wasmosy said that nobody will be able to deprive the Colorado Party of definitively attaining democracy and freedom on 9 May. He stressed: "In 50 days we did what other political parties managed in one or two years. In five years we will thus build the democratic and prosperous Paraguay that other political parties would only be able to build in 30-35 years."

Wasmosy ended by urging the crowd to have confidence in the government program he will implement on 15 August when he assumes the presidency.

### Judge Prohibits Media From Broadcasting Election Polls, Surveys

*PY0605002693 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 5 May 93 p 4*

[Text] Civil and Commercial Judge Juan Ramon Bueno Jara this morning issued a final judgment that prohibits the media from conducting or broadcasting polls or surveys because they may influence the voters in favor of a given candidate. The judgment is based on Article 326 of the Electoral Code.

The judgment was announced following a petition for protection filed by Joel Atilio Cazal, the Broad National Participation Movement's presidential candidate. It was believed for a while that this court judgment would harm the vote exit poll tasks, causing countless problems in securing unofficial data on the election results. The measure includes radio stations, newspapers, television stations and repeater stations in the interior of the country. It imposes sanctions on those violating it, as established in Article 347 of the Electoral Code. The judgment states that if the media conduct and broadcast poll or survey results within the prohibited period, they will suffer the consequences, beside other civil or criminal actions that the violators might suffer.

The judgment states: "The judge is convinced that no one may violate legal provisions and force the courts to act quickly in order to prevent worse evils that might tarnish the electoral process that will culminate on 9 May." The judgment includes, among others, the radio stations Nanduti, Cardinal, and Caritas; the weeklies TIEMPO 14 and LA OPINION; the dailies ABC COLOR, ULTIMA HORA, HOY, and NOTICIAS; and the television channels 9 and 13.

### European Parliament President on Importance of Having 'Fair' Elections

*PY0505224193 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 5 May 93 p 4*

[Text] European Parliament President Egon Klepsch this morning stressed the importance of having fair elections in our country next Sunday, 9 May, to strengthen Paraguay's image abroad. Klepsch met President Andres Rodriguez and Foreign Minister Alexis Frutos Vaesken this morning.

Following the meeting with Rodriguez, Klepsch said: "We rejoice over Paraguay's transition to democracy. Personally, I am really glad that President Rodriguez has honored the pledge he made when he took office."

He also stressed "the importance for Paraguay to have curbed inflation in such a successful way, which has drawn praise from other countries."

With regard to his meetings with opposition candidates Domingo Laino of the PLRA [Authentic Radical Liberal Party] and Guillermo Caballero Vargas from the National Encounter Alliance, Klepsch pointed out: "I have confirmed that they seek to continue building on what has been so far achieved (democracy and social market economy) so that the country may achieve growth within the Mercosur [Common Market of the South] and improve its social structure and its future opportunities, competing with other countries in the world."

Following his meeting with Frutos Vaesken at the Foreign Ministry, Kepsch stated that "the European Parliament is very interested in Mercosur and in Latin American integration because Europe is also consolidating its integration within the EC. The European Parliament is also interested in a strengthening of democracy in the hemisphere." Klepsch added that there are four prerequisites for building an international community such as the EC: The rule of law in every member country, a social market economy, a pluralist democracy, and lastly, member countries must be willing to give up some sovereignty to let the next accomplish something.

### Brazil 'Willing' To Review Terms of Itaipu Treaties

*PY0605030093 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 5 May 93 p 12*

[Excerpt] The Brazilian side of the Itaipu Binational Entity is willing to sit down and review the terms of the treaty and annexes that are being so strongly questioned by broad sectors of Paraguayan society, including the legislative branch. Francisco Gomidez, the new president of the Brazilian side of the entity, said this in Asuncion yesterday.

Gomidez paid a short visit to our country at the head of a delegation of the highest-ranking Brazilian officials of the entity to define the Itaipu budget for this year.

At the end of a long-lasting meeting with his Paraguayan peers, Gomidez told the press that in his opinion "the two parties negotiated the treaty and annexes in good faith and with goodwill. Whenever there is goodwill, ideas can be exchanged and any topic can be discussed. All things can be improved. Brazilian Foreign Minister Henrique Cardoso's position is to keep doors open to discussion."

Regarding Annex A, Gomidez said: "I see an absolutely egalitarian division." He added, however, that his position in this regard is the same he has regarding all the documents: "Any topic can be reviewed."

His Paraguayan counterpart, Engineer Miguel Luciano Jimenez, also supported the idea of proposing to the Brazilians a few changes that may help our country to participate more fairly in the administration and benefits of the hydroelectric plant. [passage omitted]

### Judge Orders Indictment of Former Military, Police Officers

*PY0505212493 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 5 May 93 p 78*

[Text] Judge Arnulfo Arias of the Sixth Criminal Court yesterday ordered the indictment of General Galo Escobar and the arrest of former police chief General Alcibiades Britez Borjes and former Army Intelligence chief General Benito Guanes Serrano.

The judge also ordered the arrest of Pastor Coronel, former Investigative Police Department chief, and Alberto Cantero, former chief of the Police Political Department where, according to cases filed with the courts, political prisoners who wanted a democratic government were tortured.

The judge handed down this ruling after criminal charges were submitted on behalf of Uruguayans William Ariel Insauralde Melgar, Alberto Alfredo Insauralde and Aurora Escotto by lawyer Pedro Dario Portillo of the Church Committee.

The indictment and arrest was requested on charges of kidnapping, illegal arrest, abuse of authority, and torture during the dictatorship of General Alfredo Stroessner.

The accusers submitted reports and evidence of the ill-treatment they received following their arrest.

Judge Arias also ordered the prosecution of Angel Spada, Juan Carlos Camichia, Jose Montenegro, Alejandro Stada, Juan Manuel Berret, Carlos Calcagno, and Jose Abdala who will be questioned on 17 May.

Judge Arias also submitted a note to Judge Jose Agustin Fernandez of the Third Criminal Court requesting information on documents from the "terror archives" related to arrests and ill-treatment of the accusers.

According to judicial sources, the archives of the Stroessner police have reports and further evidence on the illegal arrest of the accusers.

## Peru

### Police Discover Plan To Free Shining Path's Guzman

*PA0505202593 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1850 GMT 5 May 93*

[Excerpts] Lima, 5 May (EFE)—A police spokesman reported on 5 May that the Peruvian Police have discovered a plan to free Abimael Guzman, the Shining Path [SL] leader serving a life sentence in a military prison. The spokesman did not provide details but indicated that the so-called "Great Plan" was found in the possession of a group of 11 terrorists who were arrested on 1 May and who apparently belong to an elite force of the SL. The spokesman said that the terrorists, who were presented to the media today, formed part of a so-called "historic contingent," which had been under lengthy and patient police surveillance. Police sources said that the subversives, including two women, were university students who worked as professors at the Cesar Vallejos preuniversity academy, using it as a base to collect money and recruit youths. [passage omitted]

Some SL experts believe the SL needs Guzman because he is the only one who can lead it and maintain unity. Some Peruvian authorities have privately expressed their fear that the SL members will try to kidnap a government official, military chief, or diplomat in exchange for Guzman. [passage omitted]

### Detained Plan Draftees Presented to Media

*PA0605050093 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0300 GMT 6 May 93*

[Text] Eleven members of the Shining Path leadership, including three women who were planning to rescue Abimael Guzman, were presented to the media by the Dincote [Counterterrorism National Directorate] on 5 May.

Apparently the detainees were members of the so-called historic contingent that was drafting the aforementioned plan.

The plan to free Abimael Guzman was almost ready. The historic contingent led by a woman was created to accomplish the mission. The only proof of the bloody rescue would be a silver emblem, the size of a one-sol coin with the image of Comrade Gonzalo [Abimael Guzman] and the rescue date.

Eleven of the members of the historic contingent are: Darwin Julian Aquino Ortiz, 24; Humberto Moises Carrasco Rojas, 29; (Calet) Joel Cruz Lopez, 31; Nancy Ruth Duenas (Canchez), 26; Hugo Eduardo Gonzalez (Huachayanki), 26; Gladys Leon Pajarito, 22; Victor German Lira Salazar, 32; Guillermo (Fluque) Ruiz, 26; Juan Jose Suazo Sanchez, 29; Antonio Medina Cuadros, 29; and Mirta Simon Santiago, 22.

The subversives were captured on 21 April following a thorough investigation that has been conducted by the Dincote since June 1992, when it raided the Cesar Vallejo Preparatory Academy.

The money collected by this alleged academy, as well as by the Association of the School of Engineering Professors, was sent to the Shining Path leadership.

The amount of money recovered during the last raid amounts to more than $60,000. A considerable amount of money in explosives, weapons, ammunition, and communication equipment were confiscated.

The detainees will be tried for the crimes of terrorism and treason.

### General Confirms Capture of Tupac Amaru 'Terrorist' Cumpa

*PA0505221893 Lima Radio Programas del Peru Network in Spanish 2000 GMT 5 May 93*

[Report by Tarapoto correspondent Walter Samuel Neira—live]

[Text] Terrorist Lucero Cumpa will be presented at the Tarapoto news conference I am attending. Her capture has been confirmed by Joint Chief of Staff General Nicolas de Bari Hermoza Rios, who made the announcement to a large group of local reporters who traveled from Lima for the important announcement at the Guayaga headquarters. Gen. Hermoza said that the reward for the capture of Serpa Cartolin, the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement [MRTA] number two man, will be raised to $100,000.

[Begin Hermoza recording] I have invited you here to announce a new and significant event in our efforts against terrorism, which constitute a harsh setback for the MRTA. As you surely remember, on 9 July 1990, under as yet insufficiently explained circumstances, 47 MRTA subversives escaped en masse from the Castro Castro penitentiary. Among the escapees was Victor Polay Campos—alias Rolando—who is currently serving a life sentence, and Central Committee member Lucero Cumpa Miranda—alias Noemi or Liliana. At the end of 1991, Lucero Cumpa was recaptured and held at the Candanedo Police Station. During a trip outside to attend to police matters, the vehicle in which she was riding was intercepted by an MRTA group and she managed to escape. Two policemen were killed during the shootout that took place. At that time, we lost all traces of this dangerous criminal, until the end of 1992, when we were informed that she was in Germany, where she had been classified as a political refugee and was residing in the city of Hamburg, where she was engaged in such activities as propaganda and agitation. On

receiving this information, the Foreign Ministry initiated efforts to gain her extradition, but Cumpa eluded the control of German authorities and managed to flee the country, shortly thereafter returning to Peru, probably at the end of October 1992.

Today, I report that on 1 May, as a result of thorough intelligence efforts, Lucero Cumpa Miranda—alias Liliana or Noemi—was captured in Tarapoto, where she was the political-military leader of MRTA's northeastern front, which is this terrorist organization's foremost body. At the time of her capture, Cumpa was going by the name of Maria Elena Obregon Heston with electoral booklet no. 06111236 and other false documents.

As a result of this important capture and the documents seized, we have also captured Luz Carizo Corneto Villalobos—alias Comrade Carito—chief of the MRTA communications center and logistics base in Tarapoto and the person in charge of radio transmissions between the MRTA National Directorate in Lima and this front. [end recording]

That was an excerpt of Gen. Hermoza's statements confirming the capture of terrorist Lucero Cumpa on 1 May 1993 in Tarapoto. The Armed Forces general commander also presented the $100,000 reward to Gen. Guido Mora to be used for charitable works in Tarapoto. Gen. Hermoza will be leaving for Lima shortly and Cumpa will be presented to the media on 6 May at approximately 1000 [1500 GMT]. The authorities will also present subversive materiel, propaganda, and explosives. I will be visiting the two homes that were searched to confirm where all this materiel was discovered, even underground.

## Joint Narcotics Operations With U.S. Viewed

*PA0505152493 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] Combined forces of the Peruvian Air Force [FAP], the Army and the National Police intensify the fight against drug trafficking in Upper Huallaga. In recent operations they have destroyed newly-made clandestine air strips that were used by traffickers. Air surveillance is carried out by means of a mobile radar station.

Along the highway near Huicungo—also used as a clandestine drug trafficking air strip—we see work carried out by the Air Force, along with the U.S. Embassy and the Army. This is a joint effort, as reported by the commander of the operation, and this is the fifth clandestine air strip being blocked to prevent the landing of airplanes used by the drug traffickers of Upper Huallaga.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified military operations commander] The objective is to deny the use of these air strips to the drug traffickers' airplanes.

[Reporter] We have noticed that neutralizing air strips in Upper Huallaga and San Martin is a rather recent operation. Does this mean that you are intensifying the fight against drug trafficking, commander?

[Commander] Yes. Since the creation of the 6th aerial and territorial region the mission we have is to control the air space and the airports, and to neutralize clandestine air strips. This is why, in the six or eight months that we have been operating in accordance with the law, we are carrying out this operation.

[Reporter] At how many other airstrips is the Air Force carrying out operations such as those in Huallaga and Ucayali?
[Commander] Up to now we have neutralized five clandestine air strips: Aguaytia 1 and 2, then Caballococha, Pampa Hermosa, and the fifth one Huicungo.

[Reporter] This operation is obviously meant to block these air strips, Commander, but does this imply that you can neutralize other air strips all over the jungle?
[Commander] Yes, that is our job in Upper Huallaga, but not all over the jungle. [end recording]

## Expert Warns of Extensive Amazon Region Deforestation

*PY0505231193 Lima EL PERUANO in Spanish 23 Apr 93 pp A6-A7*

[Article by Leonidas Canchaya]

[Excerpts] Marcelino Mayuash Asanki, professor at the Alto Mayo Linguistics Institute, has stated that if the deforestation process in the Amazon region continues at its present rate of destruction, in less than 30 years the most extensive region of Peru, and the most important lung of the world [el pulmon mas importante del mundo], will become a gigantic and inhospitable desert.

Mayuash Asanki reported that so far 2 million square kilometers have been leveled, representing one fifth of our Amazonian region. "Each day 500 square kilometers of tropical forests are eliminated," he said.

He said that those responsible for this ecological disaster were petroleum companies, drug traffickers, timber dealers, and terrorists, especially through the contamination of rivers through the use of acids such as ether, kerosene, and mercury, which seriously poison the water.

Speaking on behalf of the 455 native tribes of Ashaninka, Culina, Piro, Matsiguenga, Chayahuita, Jebero, Amarakaeri, Andoque, Bora, Huitoto, Ocaina, Aguaruna, Huambisa, Shipibo, Cottibo, Yagua, Kichwa, Secoya, Ticuna, Cholon, Taushio, and Cocama Cocamilla peoples, Mayuash Asanki demanded resolute government action to prevent the development of the desert.

"The Amazon is a mosaic made up of 800 human groups and their corresponding cultures, and this ethnic and cultural pluralism cannot be disregarded or denied respect if we want a realistic view of our jungle region." [passage omitted]

The professor added that the depredation continues not only through the poisoning of river waters, but also through the destruction of forests, the indiscriminate cutting of wood, and the premeditated burning of the vegetation.

"These problems have been created by past governments, by politicians who were in office then, in complicity with bad agricultural officials from the regions of Loreto, Ucayali, San Martin, and Madre de Dios—the same ones who have allowed the deforestation of the Amazon plains through the leveling and burning of forests, the establishment of illegal industries, and the proliferation of operations that seriously jeopardize the ecological balance of this important region of the planet," he said. [passage omitted]

### * Decreased Political Violence in Mantaro Assessed

*93WR0222Z Lima IDEELE in Spanish Mar 93 pp 34-38*

[Article by Isaias Rojas: "Has Peace Arrived in the Mantaro?"; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] The Mantaro Valley is part of one of the strategic areas of Peru. It is the principal source of food for Lima. Key communications routes and the principal networks of the electricity distribution system pass through it, and in the hills above it mining activity goes on. It is an important source of national income. Because of these characteristics subversive movements have regarded this region as an area to develop their strategy. As a result, over the past few years, it has been the scene of an undeclared war which has paid no attention to either humanitarian or legal considerations of any kind. At present a combination of factors apparently has reduced the activities of subversive groups, and particularly the Shining Path movement. However, nothing indicates that the battle of the Mantaro Valley is now completely over.

The most apparent signs of political violence can be seen as you enter the city of Huancayo over the tracks running along both banks of the Mantaro River. A large number of political slogans has been painted on every possible wall. These signs compete for space with the signs of candidates in the recent municipal elections. They consist of slogans, watchwords, and subversive threats. However, curiously enough, as soon as they were painted over by the Army and show how old they are, other signs were painted over them, calling for "armed strikes," some of them on 15 May and others on 24 and 25 July.

When you enter Huancayo, one of the first comments which you hear people make is: "The situation has calmed down." Such comments have a basis in fact. They recall the difficult periods of violence through which these people lived during the "armed strikes" in May and July, when the area was almost completely paralyzed by fear, thus expressing the high level of intimidation which the subversives had achieved. The comments also recall the wave of disappearances which shook the city during the second half of 1992.

Coinciding with the latter phenomenon and the capture of Abimael Guzman, the activity of Shining Path, the principal source of violence in the area, apparently began to decline. That change can be seen by comparing periods of six months. Between May and August 1992 there were 143 attacks and 197 people killed. Between September 1992 and February 1993 there were 73 attacks and 90 persons killed.

A qualitative indicator was seen in the last municipal elections. Contrary to what was expected, the elections took place normally. As in other areas of the country, a large number of electoral lists competed in the elections. On the other hand, the Shining Path movement made practically no effort against the elections throughout the valley. Barely four charges of dynamite were exploded, apparently as isolated and spontaneous acts by some subversive group which wanted to prove that it was still there. There were no flying squads of subversives and no sign painting or any other kind of propaganda.

However, how could it be that an area which, until a short time ago, reflected so much violence, could have calmed down so quickly? Does this mean that the Shining Path movement has disappeared from the region? In effect, is the region now pacified? Is this a situation which, seen in perspective, is moving toward a consolidation of government authority? A closer look will show more complex elements than those which appear at first sight.

#### 'Dirty War' in the City

In view of its failure in the countryside, particularly in the more mountainous areas of the Mantaro Valley, from which it was expelled by civil defense patrols, the Shining Path movement redeployed back into the city of Huancayo, making this city the center of its activity, from which it organized its war strategy for the entire region. In that process it concentrated its work on the University of Huancayo, apparently intending to turn the field of higher education into the spearhead of its activity.

Certainly, the subversive groups had paid attention to the universities from the beginning of the war and moved into them to challenge the authorities for political control. The democratic forces drew back in view of the growing use of violence by the armed, subversive groups, so that for a time only those groups were still on the scene. During the past few years the MRTA [Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement] withdrew from the scene, and it was the Shining Path movement which took over the political arena. With the opposition to it under control, Shining Path began to work freely, recruiting new members and planning its activities. In the view of observers in the area the Shining Path movement succeeded in gaining control of some officials in the university administration. In its effort to take over control the

Shining Path movement was not distracted by considerations of any kind in killing its opponents, whether they were teachers or students.

In the view of the Shining Path movement the universities not only were attractive because they were a potential breeding ground for recruits but also because they made it possible to penetrate other social groups because of the family origins of the majority of students and because of their capacity for projecting social influence. In this way the students could reach outlying areas, markets, the informal [illegal] sector of the economy, institutes of higher education, and also attempt to return to the countryside.

The response of the government to this challenge has been fundamentally military. Since the Political and Military Command took charge of the campaign, raids, searches, and occupations of university premises have frequently occurred. At the same time cases involving the disappearance of people associated with the universities were recorded. People in Huancayo still remember the kidnapping and subsequent murder of an academic vice rector by unknown persons some years ago.

During the period when Gen. Perez Documet was in command and in accordance with government policy the military took over the university campus on 9 July 1991. Since then there has been a military base there which has been responsible for checking on the movements of university personnel and students.

In the months following the establishment of the military base the Shining Path movement succeeded in maintaining a semiclandestine level of activity. Several times Shining Path guerrillas attacked soldiers who were guarding university installations. One of those attacks took place on 7 July 1992, when the guerrillas killed a soldier and wounded another one at the gates of the university. In response to this attack the military carried out a raid and a compulsory census of the students on 7 August 1992. According to regional observers, the wave of student disappearances began after that. The Office of the Prosecutor for Human Rights recorded 22 complaints of disappearances, while other sources, such as the Police, spoke of 31 cases. Still other groups said that the total involved 35 cases.

After these events the Shining Path movement, as it were, practically abandoned any further activity. Apparently, it withdrew from the scene, while military control of the area became tighter. At present entry into the university campus is tightly controlled. The students form lines at the principal gate, where they are carefully checked by soldiers. A few meters away other soldiers, their weapons at the ready, closely watch all details of the entrance to the university.

The university has been completely repainted. There are no subversive slogans on the walls, and no leaflets or propaganda of any kind have been distributed, as used to be done previously. However, those who are familiar with the university scene state that the Shining Path movement still has a certain, hidden presence.

The above process, described very briefly, has provided a basis for analysts of the area to say that there are at least two reasons for the decline in Shining Path activity in the Mantaro River Valley. In the first place, there is the pressure and control exercised by the Army over the university, which has made it possible to close off the principal area where the Shining Path movement operated and organized in the region. In the second place there was the wave of disappearances and executions which seems to have affected its intermediate level, organic structure, weakening its channels of communication and coordination with other areas.

Furthermore, in that context there was the capture of Abimael Guzman, as well as some of his top leaders. This development led not only to demoralization in the ranks of the Shining Path movement but also deprived them of orders on how to deal with the military offensive.

**Residential Areas and Other Sectors**

In view of the closure of the university to Shining Path activity the view has been expressed that the guerrilla movement was going to change the direction of its efforts, placing greater emphasis on areas such as residential neighborhoods, markets, and informal [illegal] stores which had previously been "worked over" by Shining Path. There is no specific evidence that this is happening. On the contrary, it seems to be true that the informal sector is also one of the areas where Shining Path has been hurt.

There are reports that the work of Shining Path in the informal sector took place some time ago and was linked to efforts made at the university, in the sense that many students needed to work as street peddlers to support themselves. It is said that for some time the students associated with Shining Path controlled at least one area in the merchant movement, in which they "legitimized" themselves by carrying out tasks involving "cleansing society" of common criminals. They also withdrew from this kind of activity but left some members behind to form centers for the future. There are reports which state that the eight street vendors who were arrested on 14 October 1992 and were executed in the Sincos area by gunshots in the head, might have had some connection with Shining Path.

In the residential areas the presence of Shining Path has also declined significantly. With the exception of a few neighborhoods, such as San Pedro de Sanos, Juan Parra del Riego, and La Esperanza, where there is some dwindling presence, there is no Shining Path activity in other residential areas. At one time there was a dispute between the Shining Path movement and the MRTA in the neighborhood area called "Justicia, Paz, y Vida" [Justice, Peace, and Life]. However, the subversives

never held an important position. Over the past few months that has been no information on activity by either of the two groups.

During the first few days of January 1993 there was a rumor in some outlying urban areas about the presence of a detachment of men who apparently came from the Alto Huallaga Valley. Reports stated that small groups of these men have visited mothers' clubs to ask them to work in a coordinated way and not to steal any goods. They reportedly told them that they could continue working and that the men would be watching what they did on a continuing basis. At that time it was also rumored that a Shining Path meeting was being prepared, probably national in scope, somewhere in the city of Huancayo. On the other hand other versions of the same report state that Shining Path officials and leaders who had previously left the area are now returning and that they are trying to resume contact with the basic cells which remain.

As in Lima, Army activity in outlying residential areas basically consists of conducting security sweeps and carrying on civic action programs. One of the most recent civic action campaigns took place in the residential neighborhood of Justicia, Paz, y Vida about two weeks before the municipal elections. In general, owing to the fact that the population blames the disappearances of people on the military, there is fear and a lack of confidence which cannot be broken by civic action campaigns, which are well received but which are insufficient in number.

In some cases the military were unsuccessful when they called on the people to organize urban security patrols. Squatter settlements have no political leaders to guide them, due to the activity of the Shining Path movement. Local, functional committees, such as those which handle the distribution of water and electricity and take care of other services, do not want to become involved in providing political leadership.

**Battle for the Surrounding Mountains**

Although the Shining Path movement has succeeded in maintaining a certain level of presence, even though it has been seriously damaged, it has lost out almost completely in the Mantaro Valley area. The organization of civil defense patrols has been the key to this situation.

The civil defense patrols, which are farmers' organizations, were organized for the first time toward the end of 1989 in Chaquicocha, in the Alto Cunas mountains. Subsequently, they were set up in areas such as Comas, in the mountains around the Tulumayo Valley, in Canipaco, and in Pariahuanca. Basically, they were set up in accordance with the countersubversive strategy followed by the government. However, they succeeded in developing because the people of the countryside were tired of the abuses and outrages committed by Shining Path subversive groups. These groups not only murdered the authorities of the towns and attacked their productive facilities but also forced the people to produce for their own consumption, preventing access to the markets. The Shining Path organization regarded this kind of organization as an alternative way of providing for their own subsistence.

In the months immediately following the emergence of the civil defense patrols there were several clashes with the remnants of Shining Path units which were fighting to reestablish their presence. On 13 February 1990 members of the civil defense patrol of Andamarca, in the Township of Concepcion, killed seven Shining Path members. During the first few days of March 1990 patrol members from Comas and Chaquicocha beheaded nine Shining Path members and brought their heads to their judicial authorities. Also displaying the same kind of violence, members of the civil defense patrols, supported by the Army, drove the Shining Path movement out of their territory.

In the following years the neighborhood patrol organization was consolidated and legitimized and began to challenge the authority of local government.

In some cases, where the area in which community authority is exercised coincides with the authority of municipal administrations, these contradictions have become complicated, since there are three, parallel structures of government: the patrols, the communities, and local governments. What is uniform is the aspect of militarization and the direct control of the military over these organizations. These local government bodies have to request permission to hold their meetings. Every so often the local authorities have to go to the military bases to make reports and coordinate activities. They necessarily have to attend whatever military ceremony is being held.

Despite this, they seem to be seeking some level of autonomy with regard to the military. There are reports about the "return to society" of some persons and "repentance" ceremonies which the patrols and communities are reportedly promoting in addition to central government policies in this regard. It is known that in the communities of the Alto Cunas area town meetings have been held at which those persons who still sympathized with the Shining Path movement have "repented" and have been "pardoned" and permitted to be "reincorporated" into the local community.

Another area concerns production and development. Several communities are trying to reestablish contact with government institutions to resume work on development projects which were halted by the Shining Path movement. On the other hand, to the extent that Shining Path opposition is not significant, civil defense patrols are directing part of their efforts to production. In this area they work with communal committees specifically charged with organizing production.

In general the activities of the civil defense patrols in this area have not been in conflict with production. The basic condition for this is that they are not spending much time on security tasks. The danger has declined significantly, and the amount of time spent on tasks involving control and surveillance activity is relatively low. Therefore, in the political context of total subordination to the

armed forces the civil defense patrols and farming communities are finding room for maneuver, particularly in the field of production, which makes it possible for them to exercise executive authority appropriate to the management of their resources and decision making.

This attitude is reportedly also being expressed in other areas. There are reports that, in at least one place during the recent elections, probably in connection with a plan which sought the political legitimation of members of civil defense patrols, the military reportedly supported their own lists of candidates. In this connection they reportedly provided resources and support for their candidates. Nevertheless, despite these hints, the people elected their own candidates.

On the other hand, in areas at lower elevations in the valley the Shining Path movement has not attacked the interests of a significant group of people, nor has it threatened income generating activity aimed at survival, as certainly took place in the case of a number of communities. Therefore, residents of the towns do not feel concerned. They do not feel that their interests are threatened and, therefore, they prefer not to become involved. That is what characterizes the principal resistance in the communities at lower levels in the valley to organize civil defense patrols. The Army has plans to set up patrols in the lower altitude parts of the valley, whatever the cost.

**Human Rights: the Drama Continues**

Two new cases of presumed arrest and disappearance were reported during the second week of February 1993. According to a complaint from family members, at about 2300 on 11 February a group of armed men, their faces covered by Balaclava helmets and in military uniform, broke into the home of Rony Guerra Blancas, a student in the Faculty of Anthropology of the Universidad Nacional del Centro [National University of Central Peru]. They arrested him and took him away in handcuffs to an unknown destination in an unidentified vehicle. Before taking him away the unknown persons apparently made a careful search of the student's property.

Elsewhere, at 0200 on 12 February a group of 10 armed persons, dressed in civilian clothes and with their faces covered by Balaclava helmets, entered the home of Milagro Flor Tupa Gonzales, a student at the Faculty of Social Work of the same university. After threatening Lupecindo Tupac Alan, her uncle, with a gun the unknown persons kidnapped the young woman and took her away to an unknown place in a vehicle whose characteristics could correspond, according to the complaint, to the vehicle used by the Army to make its purchases in the city market. Before taking her away those involved in this incident also searched her belongings. According to unofficial reports from the Office of the Public Prosecutor, both students belonged to the Committee on Admissions of the National University of Central Peru. A short time previously the committee had held an admissions examination, and the two students were in love with each other. Public opinion in Huancayo has compared this case with that of the university students kidnapped and executed around the middle of 1992.

The Judicial District of Junin has one of the highest number of complaints concerning arrests and disappearances during the past few years. To mention only some details of this record: according to the Office of the Special Prosecutor for Human Rights, during 1992, 147 complaints were received regarding arrest and disappearance and simple disappearance. Of these cases 57 were resolved because the victims reappeared alive. Another 16 persons turned up dead, their bodies showing signs of torture and execution by gunshot. Some 74 cases remain to be resolved. As of the end of 1992 nothing was known about them.

**Cases of 'Repentance': the Law Does Not Operate**

Some months ago the government undertook a psychological-social campaign aimed at causing desertions from the ranks of subversive groups. To do this, it offered a number of benefits to those who surrendered and provided information to the authorities. Nevertheless, it appears that the legal procedure set up for this program is not functioning.

According to the Office of the Special Prosecutor for Human Rights in Junin, there were 64 cases of "repentance" in Vilcacoto, Pariahuanca, and other areas in the southern part of the Department of Junin. The individuals involved are presently held at military bases in the area. Of the 64 cases only two have received the proper, legal handling. That is reportedly due, not only to the usual slowness in the administration of justice but also to the fact that the military authorities are still not familiar with legal procedures. It happens that a person who expresses "repentance" runs the risk of being prosecuted for "terrorism." Despite the fact that the person expressing "repentance" during the police investigation of his or her case is supposed to be subject to special treatment which guarantees, among other things, confidentiality and secrecy regarding his identity, in effect such a person is considered to be a police witness. In these circumstances his or her case goes to the Office of the Provincial Prosecutor, which often declines to make a decision, despite having the authority to decide not to take the case before a court. In the Judicial Branch of the government there is a similar problem: the judges are afraid to rule in favor of persons expressing "repentance."

This leads to a situation which seriously limits the effectiveness of the existing, legal process. Furthermore, seeking more security, those expressing "repentance" may decide to surrender to the military who, on their own authority, decide how these cases are to be handled. Therefore, it would seem that arbitrary decisions are made, and the law remains in limbo.

As can be seen, the failure to apply a law which is considered to be a success by jurists is absolutely counterproductive for the struggle against subversion.

**A Preliminary Balance Sheet**

In general, in the Mantaro Valley area the Shining Path movement seems to have been seriously damaged. The strategy of the farmers' civil defense patrols has forced the movement to withdraw into the cities, and Huancayo in particular, from which they have attempted to reorganize their war strategy for the region. The clear tendency in the country is the consolidation and legitimation of civil defense patrols and the alliance between the farmers and the armed forces.

In the city, a part of the Shining Path structure seems to have been affected, with the systematic disappearance and extrajudicial execution of university students during the middle of 1992. Nevertheless, it is known that the highest regional leadership of Shining Path has been little affected. As a result, it is speculated that these leaders are engaged in an effort to reorganize and redirect Shining Path strategy in the area. Its strategic importance is a key factor in their "war."

Nevertheless, it seems unlikely that this reorganization is being carried out from the same places which have been captured by the armed forces. As a result there is no possibility that it will be achieved over the short run.

Much will depend on how the government and civilian society at this time work to prevent such a reorganization. In that sense military strategy, carried out without any legal limitations or restrictions, now seems to have reached its limits.

## Venezuela

### President's Letter Demands Court Impeachment Decision

*PA0505174693 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 1550 GMT 5 May 93*

[Letter from President Carlos Andres Perez to the Supreme Court of Justice, dated 5 May in Caracas—read by announcer]

[Text] To the judges, president, and other Supreme Court of Justice members:

Newspapers report on 5 May that the Supreme Court of Justice president and the presiding judge [ponente] in the preliminary hearing against the president, the former interior minister, and the former minister of the secretariat of the Presidency—accused of embezzlement and misuse of public funds by the prosecutor general—has found grounds for their trial.

The Supreme Court president's report [ponencia] cannot be officially released until the Supreme Court holds a plenary session and the judges voice their stands on its contents.

Nevertheless, it is a fact that both locally and abroad the public has been led to believe that the president's impeachment [enjuiciamiento] is imminent, whether the presiding judge found grounds for proposing it.

I feel the country should not be subjected to this uncertainty for several days or weeks, until the expiration of the 15-day deadline that the law gives the judges to study the report prior to holding a plenary session to come to a conclusion.

The nation's peace of mind, particularly the advancement of its economic processes which have been affected by well-known political circumstances, makes it extremely urgent that an immediate decision be made regarding whether the head of state is to be impeached.

There should not be any justification for maintaining this destructive state that could entail serious and perhaps irreparable damage to Venezuela.

It is evidently urgent that we restore as soon as possible the full normalcy that has been undoubtedly altered by the crisis resulting from the uncertainty created by the announcement of a possible impeachment of the president.

Therefore, I urge the Supreme Court of Justice judges to convene without further delay a plenary session convoked by their president to reach the proper decision with the urgency that the exceptional and extraordinary case demands.

I repeat: The nation cannot be made to wait, not even a few days, in view of the very special circumstances that Venezuela is experiencing. Achieving institutional stability and normalcy by applying the constitutional provisions established for the circumstance occurring in the country for the first time is the duty of the Supreme Court of Justice as well as my duty, as Venezuelan head of state.

Yours truly,
[signed] Carlos Andres Perez
[issued] Miraflores Palace
Caracas
5 May 1993

### Council of Ministers Meeting Held on Hearing

*PA0605034393 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 2350 GMT 5 May 93*

[Report by Cecilia Pachano]

[Text] An extraordinary Council of Ministers meeting took place on 5 May at Miraflores Presidential Palace, at which the president and his cabinet members analyzed the information that appeared in the newspapers on the Supreme Court of Justice's sentence proposal in the case of the president's preliminary hearing.

After two hours Interior Affairs Minister Jesus Ramon Carmona, commenting as a lawyer and as a cabinet member, remarked on the discussion with the president:

[Begin Carmona recording] The Cabinet considered the president's arguments, which in essence is the opinion of the head of state, as to the need for the Supreme Court of Justice to make its decision as soon as possible. [end recording]

Angel Zambrano, Central Information Office director, gave his opinion as the president's spokesman:

[Begin Zambrano recording] We do not know Magistrate Dr. Rodriguez Corro's argument, consequently, the president has asked for a quick decision. The country is definitely seriously at risk due to the political and social instability as a consequence of all the doubts that have arisen. That is why the president has very sensibly respectfully asked members of the court to adjudicate this case as soon as possible. [end recording]

During the rest of the day intense activity could be observed at the Miraflores Presidential Palace after the president summoned some of his former ministers and advisers, among them Armando Duran, Jose Mendoza Angulo, and Carlos Blanco.

The members of the Executive Branch expect that the Supreme Court of Justice will favorably consider President Perez' proposal and come to a decision prior to the 15-day period the law provides.

### Central Information Office Director Denies Perez Planning To Resign

*PA0605020493 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 2350 GMT 5 May 93*

[Text] Central Information Office [OCI] Director Angel Zambrano categorically denied rumors transmitted by some media concerning the alleged resignation of President Carlos Andres Perez. Zambrano called on the media to remain alert and not to let themselves be caught off guard by rumors:

[Begin Zambrano recording] Absolutely false. What has taken place is that the president, in a note addressed to the president of the Supreme Court of Justice and to the other judges, has requested an expeditious decision as demanded by this urgent and extraordinary case. It is believed that the country should not be subjected to such a degree of uncertainty for a lengthy period of time, until the 15-day period established by law for the judges to evaluate the case expires and for them to meet in full session to decide on the merit of the charges.

Undoubtedly, the nation's tranquillity, and especially the development of the economic process, which is already sensitive to such well-known political issues, makes it necessary for this issue to be immediately clarified without any further delay. There is no reason to prolong this pernicious anxiety, which may result in severe and maybe irreparable damage to Venezuela.

In his note to the Supreme Court of Justice, the president added that it is urgent for the country to return fully to normal. The country has undoubtedly been changed by the crisis, brought about by the uncertainty resulting from the announcement that the president of the Republic may have to stand trial. [end recording]

### FAC Commander Briefs President Perez

*PA0505162693 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 1550 GMT 4 May 93*

[Text] General Jose Francisco Rendon Reyes, commander of the Armed Forces of National Cooperation [FAC], met with President Carlos Andres Perez on the morning of 4 May to brief him on the FAC's actions during the Democratic Action's and Social Christian Party's internal elections. He also briefed the president on the preparations for the Republic Plan for the December elections.

[Begin Rendon recording] We are carrying out the various preparatory measures, seeking the human, financial, and logistic resources, and reviewing the previous plans because we have gained much experience from previous elections in the country. As a result, the next plan will be consistent with the needs of the country and everything will come out the way the Venezuelan people want with many guarantees for the people so they can vote in peace and be satisfied with the results. [end recording]

### Supreme Court Accepts Appeal Annulling Lara Elections

*PA0405192593 Caracas Radio Caracas Television in Spanish 1600 GMT 3 May 93*

[Report by Jose Luis Yepes from Barquisimeto]

[Text] The Supreme Court of Justice, through its Political-Administrative Court, has accepted an appeal filed by the Movement Toward Socialism [MAS] for the annulment of the Lara State gubernatorial elections.

In March, MAS filed an appeal for the annulment of Lara State gubernatorial elections charging that the elections were replete with corruption. On 2 May, the Supreme Court of Justice accepted the appeal and now has 30 days to decide the whether elections will be repeated and if so whether it will be done throughout the state or just in certain districts. It was confirmed that 998 of the 1,823 tally sheets contained irregularities.

[Begin recording Erwin Quero, MAS Regional Executive Committee member in Lara State] This decision means there will be new gubernatorial elections in Lara State in August at the latest. [sentence as heard] We will then have Macario Gonzalez as the new governor. He was the governor elected in December 1992, but fraud and cheating permitted Mariano Navarro to assume the post of governor. Beginning in August, Lara State will have its real governor, who is Macario Gonzalez. [end recording]

MAS regional leaders believe the new gubernatorial elections could be held by mid-year, adding that they trust the Supreme Court of Justice, through its Political-Administrative Court, will decide in favor of repeating the elections.